

## THE DISSIDENCE OF

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### Ecclesiastical Affairs.

## BACK AGAIN IN THE COMMONS

THE Irish Church Bill has been sent back to the House of Commons, and will there undergo refitting to-morrow evening. The Lords have done with it for the time being, and, if their work should stand, have done *for* it. There is not the least likelihood, however, that the Commons will allow the voice of the country, uttered in decisive tones at the General Election, to be stifled by hereditary legislators. The Lords have asserted their will with regard to the measure—the Commons will now re-assert theirs. It will be seen, in the course of next week, whose will is to prevail.

In regard to disestablishment, the Bill now remains pretty much as it stood when it was sent up by the House of Commons. The original date fixed for the final severance of the tie uniting Church and State in Ireland—January 1, 1871—altered by the Lords in Committee to January 1, 1872—was again changed, on the consideration of the report, to May 1, 1871, thus delaying the operation four months instead of twelve. No objection will probably be taken to the compromise. But a far more important concession was made to public opinion on the third reading of the Bill. In Committee the Lords had retained the privilege of the Irish Archbishops and Bishops to sit under the same conditions as now in the Upper House during the remainder of their natural lives. The amendment presented itself to our mind, and to the minds of our countrymen generally, as one of comparatively small moment. But in Ireland it was regarded as a serious blot upon the Bill. A seat in the House of Lords for members of the Episcopal Bench is considered in the sister isle as almost the only outward and visible sign of Establishment—and were that sign allowed to remain during the next twenty or thirty years, as the case might be, it would be almost impossible to convince the majority of the Irish people that the Church had really ceased to be established by law. Had it come down to the Commons the difficulty of dealing with the amendment would have been enhanced by the constitutional rule of etiquette that one branch of the Legislature shall not infringe upon the privilege of the other. The Lords, however, had the wisdom to expunge their own amendment on the third reading of the Bill, and the bishops of the Disestablished Church will now be

position which was originally assigned to them by the Government measure.

The principal changes which have been wrought in the Bill by hereditary statesmanship, are those which affect disendowment. Up to Monday last, the Lords, spiritual and temporal, but the former especially, had been so blindly eager to clutch back all the spoil which came within their reach as to have placed themselves in the worst possible position before the country. Besides making arrangements for the most extravagant compensation of personal interests, and giving the Church Body the benefit of whatever profit it could extract from compulsory commutation of them, immediately and universally carried out at fourteen years' purchase, they made over to the Episcopal Church the glebe-houses with their curtilages free of all charge, and resumed the whole of the Royal gifts, amounting in value to something approaching a million sterling, which, together with the sums yearly paid by the higher class of livings to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners as a substitute for vestry cess, they handed over for the re-endowment of the disestablished Church. Having thus abstracted an enormous capital sum from national resources for the advantage of a small minority of the people, they refused to carry the "levelling-up" process in other directions, and thus converted a measure which was framed on a basis of impartial disendowment into one embodying the principle of exclusive re-endowment; and they finished their transforming work, by knocking away the Government clause for the appropriation of the surplus, and leaving it to the decision of Parliament when the amount of that surplus should be ascertained.

It was obviously impossible that such work could stand. The Lords themselves, when they came to review it as a whole, seemed to have seen it in this light. On Monday last, therefore, they again altered the principle of the measure. They allowed Lord Stanhope to persuade them that concurrent endowment fell more closely within the scope of the Bill, and would give it a better chance of success, than that of bare and exclusive re-endowment. A clause has therefore been added directing the Commissioners to apply such portion of the surplus as may be found necessary in building a glebe-house, and buying ten acres of land, for every parish priest of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, and for every minister of a Presbyterian congregation. Even this clause, however, is so clumsily worded, that it is doubtful whether it could be put into practical operation, and it was carried by a majority of seven only. Mr. Gladstone has most distinctly and emphatically declared, in his reply to a memorial of the Independent Orange Association of Ulster, that the Government "will give no countenance to a direct proposal of concurrent endowment," and that they will resist any postponement of the appropriation of the surplus, as "the almost acknowledged road to concurrent endowment at some future time." In these decisions he will be sustained by a large majority of the House of Commons.

What, then, our readers may ask, will be the probable fate of the Bill? Very much, we apprehend, what Mr. Lowe anticipated at the Trinity House banquet. The Commons will ruthlessly strike out all the provisions added.

the Lords for the re-endowment of the Irish Church. They are utterly incompatible with the main principle of the measure—that of religious equality by means of impartial disendowment. They defeat its beneficent policy. They turn a plan of conciliation into a means of inflicting further injustice. Concurrent endowment will be looked upon, and justly so, as the hush-money grudgingly and at the last moment held out to other religious bodies, to enable the still petted Church to sack three-fourths of the booty. It has been resorted to, as a cover, for ecclesiastical greed. It merely consists that those bodies shall eat up the crumbs which fall from the master's table. As now proposed, it would ensure all the evils of Mr. Pitt's plan, without any of its contemplated advantages. He would have ruled Ireland by the agency of the priesthood—this plan would not even do that. Besides, the statesmanship of the present day looks beyond such superficial expedients. The reformed constituencies will Ireland to be governed by doing substantial justice to all classes of the people, not by placating the class of ecclesiastics. The Commons, therefore, not in bigotry, nor in obedience to the bigotry of electors, but with a view to the initiation of a higher style of government in Ireland, will certainly reject any and every form of concurrent endowment in Ireland. The only amendment relating to the pecuniary interests of the Church which stands a chance of being accepted, and that, we suspect, not without some modification, is that of Lord Connarvon, which gives compensation to the clergy in an aggregate commuted sum, to be handed over to the Church Body charged with the several clerical annuities. The clause relating to the appropriation of the surplus will be restored, and the Bill will be sent back to the Lords containing all the essential features which characterised it when it was originally introduced to that assembly. But will they succumb? We shall see. The odds, we think, are heavy in favour of their giving way at last. They have had their fling of independence; they will now be forced back into a mood of sobriety. If not, the future will demand of their hands more than the past.

## ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

ALL through England and Scotland, the sound of renewed political war has gone forth. Agitation of this kind, in midsummer, is not always easy to provoke, and it is a proof of the earnestness and ardour of feeling with which the Irish Church question is viewed, that as soon as the call to arms has been given, the constituencies should have responded to it. We are glad to see that, on the present occasion, it does not appear to be left to the Liberation party only, in the various boroughs, to rally round the Premier. The members of that party constitute, undoubtedly, a chief, and in some districts, the chief, source of the strength of Liberalism. It is natural that they should take the initiative in the present work, but it is undesirable that they should stand alone. They are now co-operating with others, and others with them. The meetings that are being held are meetings of Liberal Committees and associations, or of the Liberal party generally. Nothing of secularising taint exists, although the object is to dismember an Evangelical Church. Ecclesiastical Government and the pulpit are lifted up over the heads of the people, and are looked at with suspicion and contempt. The bibles used in the schools are condemned and are bannished over the land.

fore our eyes. Before the end of the present week, nearly all the Liberal constituencies will probably have communicated with their representatives, and in such a manner and through such channels as will, we imagine, convince any lingering supporter—if such there be—that he must keep true to his party and his pledges. But whatever has to be done must be done now. It is probable that the Bill will be again out of the Commons by Friday night, and the morning of that day is the latest period at which the members should receive the opinions of their constituents.

Last week we noticed the appearance of the ninety-ninth number of the *British Quarterly*, and we now see that the current number of the *North British Review* is marked at One Hundred. We direct attention to the able article upon the Irish Church question in this number, and especially to one sentiment expressed in a note, indicating a change in the political conduct of the *Review*. The *North British* has not hitherto been very closely identified with political questions, but it is now announced that it will follow the course of Mr. Gladstone. It says of that statesman that, under him "the nation has risen, for the first time in its history, to the full height of its imperial vocation." In the detailed war which has been going on for the last twelve months, we have all of us been too apt to forget this fact. History, however, will, we cannot question, say just what this writer has said, that England, under Mr. Gladstone, was lifted to a higher plane of life than it had ever lived in before.

The hands of the Government are being strengthened for once and for the first time by the Orangemen of Ireland. At one of the great meetings held on Monday at Ulster, even Mr. Johnston protested against the Lords' amendments. He would have no connection with the State after disestablishment; he declared the repugnance of Orangemen to concurrent endowment in any and every form, and he deprecated the idea of the bishops continuing to sit in the House of Lords. The Independent Orange Association of Ulster have addressed Mr. Gladstone in similar tones. They express their astonishment at Protestant bishops voting for the endowment of Popery and almost in Liberation phrases, declare their opinion that the Primitive Church was untrammelled by State aid or control when she achieved her greatest victories. Mr. Gladstone in his reply has clearly indicated his future course. He says that he will give no countenance either to a direct proposal of concurrent endowment or to any plan for the postponement of those provisions of the Bill which relate to the appropriation of the surplus property of the Church. We now know where we are and what issue Mr. Gladstone will raise.

The Rev. Philip Hains, incumbent of St. George's, Wigan, who took a prominent part in promoting the success of the Liberal party at the last election, has received his reward. Last year he received a threat that the Church Pastoral Aid Society would withdraw his curate, and this year the threat has been executed. His curate, who has been sustained by the Society, is withdrawn from him. Of course the question occurs, has any Tory incumbent's curate been withdrawn in a similar manner? This is answered by Mr. Hains himself.

Almost all the clergy of the Church of England during the past twelve months have assumed a prominent political attitude. Many of them have been far more active than I have been. Never in my church or parish have political questions been discussed. On the other side, pulpits and "religious platforms" have fulminated their denunciations against Mr. Gladstone. Acres of political correspondence proceeding from clergymen have occupied the columns of the "religious press" of this country. Church bells have rung in the success of the Tory candidates, and rung out the defeat of their opponents. Church schoolrooms have been converted into Conservative committee-rooms, and Liberal candidates in all our boroughs or in counties have found their most formidable opponents in the political clergy. At clerical meetings the doctrine was laid down, and afterwards rigidly acted upon, in this county, that every clergyman was so to exert himself in his individual parish, as though the result depended wholly upon him in order to insure the defeat of the present Prime Minister in South-west Lancashire. The grantees of the Pastoral Aid Society were especially energetic. The clergy assisted by it have continued their political crusade against Mr. Gladstone to the present hour, and have met with no interference on the part of Mr. Speer. At the annual meeting, held in London, it was stated triumphantly that it was through the work of this very society that the alleged Tory reaction had set in in this county of Lancaster. Now, I wish to ask, sir, and as I take it the Liberal supporters of the Church Pastoral Aid Society would like to know, whether all these delinquents have been called to task and punished by the society; or on what plea of justice or fair play I should be selected as the scapegoat to bear the penalty of an offence in which I am not more deeply implicated than my reverend brethren. The society states it is free from all political bias. It appears to me that such a statement is a flagrant contradiction of its openly acknowledged acts. Supported by hundreds or thousands of the Liberal party, abandoning the holy purpose for which it was distinctively constituted, sinking into the bitter arena of party politics, it is now lending its in-

fluence and misusing its income of 40,000*l.* a year for political purposes, by throwing all its weight on the side of the present opposition to her Majesty's Government.

Very pitiful all this is, but is it not very natural?

Natural as something that we find in the *Church News*, for instance, which, in two articles, takes occasion to vilify Dissent in all its forms. One article is written to protest against those members of the Established Church who avoid "meeting houses" at home, but who, when abroad, will attend the services of Protestant ministers who have "no more authority than a Dissenting preacher in England." Another discusses the "practical results of the Lutheran Doctrine of Faith," and maintains that wherever Dissent exists, there also exists immorality in equal proportions. It is acknowledged that amongst Evangelicals the doctrine is taught with some reserve, but not so among Dissenters. And it adds that "the utter worthlessness of attempts at leading a moral life are insisted on with a horrible vehemence, and the results are patent to all who know anything of neighbourhoods where Dissent has had its way some years." Thus:—

We have only to run our eyes over any parish register in England, and we shall find that the progress of Dissent and of Bastardy move together. If we know the date at which Dissent entered the parish, we know that from that date the number of illegitimate births will steadily increase. The cause of this is in the teaching of the Lutheran doctrine of Faith, preached so seriously in the Methodist and Independent chapels—a doctrine which, from an *a priori* view, we should suppose calculated to ruin the morals of those who embraced it, and which statistics have proved to be pernicious in the extreme. What, indeed, can be expected from rude, ignorant people, who are bidden

Cast your deadly doing down,  
Down at Jesus' feet,

and are assured in the words of the hymn they roar forth that

Doing is a deadly thing,  
Doing ends in death.

but that they will put in practice what they hear and sing, and cheat, swindle, and fornicate without compunction.

It would be possible to expose the utter grossness of this libel; but probably our readers will agree with us that, so foul is the misrepresentation of this writer, that it is not necessary to do it.

#### HOW THE LORDS HAVE AMENDED THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

The following statement with the above heading has been circulated:—

"1. The bill, as passed by the House of Commons, deprived the Church of all political privileges not enjoyed by the members of other religious bodies. The Lords have resolved that the existing Irish bishops shall continue to sit in Parliament, though they will no longer represent an Established Church.

"2. The bill secured to the bishops and clergy annuities equal to their present incomes; but allowed them to commute the amounts, according to the value of each life interest, with the view to the payment of the commutation to the representative body of the Church. The Lords have provided that all the annuities—whether the lives be old or young—shall, whether the clergy wish it or not, be commuted, and at fourteen years' purchase—a change which not only interferes with the free action of the clergy, but will, it is calculated, endow the Church with an additional 1,200,000*l.*

"3. The bill provided that, in calculating the value of the annuities to be received by the clergy, the salaries which they now pay to their curates, and other payments which lessen their present incomes, should be deducted. The Lords have determined that the clergy shall have compensation for the salaries which they now pay to their curates—except where the employment of curates is required by law—while the curates will receive compensation for the same sums. The clergy are also to be compensated for a tax, amounting to 19,000*l.* a year, which they now pay to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and which belongs to the State, as well as for other payments which at present are a deduction from their incomes. The effect of these changes is, it is estimated, to give an additional million to the Church.

"4. The bill not only gave the Church all the churches, but all the parsonages, with the gardens attached, on repayment of either the amount of money borrowed for building, or of ten times the value of the sites of the parsonages, whichever sum might be smallest. The Lords have given the parsonages and sites without any condition whatever. This is assumed to be equivalent to a grant of an additional 152,000*l.* to the Church.

"5. The bill allowed the Church to retain all the private endowments which have come into its possession since 1660. The Lords have added all the endowments dating one hundred years further back, together with the royal grants, or Ulster glebes,

These changes give more than an additional 1,000,000*l.* to the Church.

"6. That the Irish Church controversy might be finally closed, the bill provided that the surplus plus should be applied 'for the advantage of the Irish people,' and 'for the relief of unavoidable calamity and suffering'; but 'not for the maintenance of any church or clergy, or other ministry, nor for the teaching of religion.' The Lords have struck these words out of the preamble, have expunged the clause which applied the surplus to charitable uses, and have enacted that Parliament shall determine hereafter on the appropriation of such surplus. And some of the peers have done this avow that they have done it, among other reasons, in the hope that the surplus may ultimately be applied in furtherance of schemes of concurrent endowment.

"7. Mr. Gladstone estimated the total proceeds of the Church property at about sixteen millions; the amount of compensation given by the bill at 8,650,000*l.*, and the surplus at 7,350,000*l.* The Lords have, it is calculated, given between four and five millions additional to the Church, and thereby reduced the surplus to about three millions, which surplus they suggest should be also applied to ecclesiastical purposes. Thus the 700,000 Episcopalian will appropriate about seven millions of the property, while the four millions and a half of Roman Catholics and the half a million of Presbyterians together will receive about one million.

"Thus, while the Government and the House of Commons aimed at establishing religious equality, the Lords wished to perpetuate religious inequality. Instead of duly compensating 'personal interests' and 'individual rights of property'—as was resolved upon by the last Parliament—they wish to make the Church a richly-endowed Church, free from all State control. In a word, while professing to bow to the national will, as expressed at the general election, they have converted the bill of which the nation approved into a measure which, if it were passed, would do what the nation has decisively condemned.

"The great question now to be decided is, Shall the question be settled according to the wishes of the House of Lords, or in harmony with the wishes of the people?"

#### THE IRISH CHURCH QUESTION.

##### THE WESLEYANS AND CONCURRENT ENDOWMENT.

The following resolution has been passed by the committee appointed by the Wesleyan Conference to consider questions of public religious interest:—

That this committee having met to consider certain amendments to the Irish Church Bill proposed in the House of Lords, the object of which was to establish a system of "concurrent endowment" in Ireland, is thankful to find that hitherto this object has not been sanctioned by any vote of that House; and considers it needful to reassert, in the name of the Methodist Connexion, its determined opposition to any endowment of Roman Catholicism, whether involving the principle of "concurrent endowment" or otherwise, in any part of the United Kingdom.

(Signed) SAMUEL RONNELL HALL, President.

FREDERICK JAMES JOSON, Sec.

The Rev. Dr. Arthur, President of the Wesleyan Methodist College in Belfast, writes as follows to the *Daily News* on the subject of concurrent endowment:—

The effect of a change of elevation on the aspect of things has never seemed to me more striking than the other evening, on passing from among ordinary people into the House of Lords. Without, all seemed to indicate that every day the discussion on the Irish Church continued brought clearer proof that we must either endow all Churches or none, and deepened the general conviction that the better alternative was to endow none. Inside, on the contrary, it seemed to be a point ascertained, that, though dislike of levelling-up had been among the phases of opinion, now the stream was strongly setting for "concurrent endowments." My puzzle was to find who had told their lordships. Certainly not the electors. To them the question had been bluntly put, Three Established Churches in Ireland or None? and if ever answer with emphasis was given it was when they said, None. Nor have the Churches declared for the alleged change of opinion any more than the electors. Previous to the elections doubt might have been fairly raised as to whether the Established and Presbyterian Churches would prefer getting an endowment for the Church of Rome or losing their own. Since then the former by its meeting of delegates, and the latter by its General Assembly, have unequivocally pronounced against the endowment of all. The authorities of the Church of Rome have not recalled their protest against their own endowment, and are not addited to pleading for the endowment of others. The Scotch have not recanted their views. No more have the English Nonconformists; but, on the contrary, in consequence of the attempts made in the House of Lords in favour of concurrent endowment, the committee appointed by the Wesleyan Methodist Conference to act in such cases, with the President at its head, has this week met for the first time in relation to the present controversy, and adopted a resolution in condemnation of such proposals. So far as I can judge, there is no point on which so many parties agree as that the endowment of three Churches in Ireland would be both unwise and wrong. This at least is certain, that should the "ghost of concurrent endowment" which has been raised threaten to turn into a reality, there will be aroused on the part of large and generally quiet portions of the community a hostility, cool, strong, and untiring. Were it possible that Mr. Gladstone should forget the

motto which rallied his imposing majority around him, and possible that his majority should forget its birth, and after having begun by disendowing one Church, should end by endowing three, a fresh agitation would arise, in which would be handled matters both heavier and hotter than the temporalities of the Irish Church. I can find no source of information to warrant their lordships in believing in such "a sudden and surprising change" of opinion as they assume to have taken place. If needful, they will have plain evidence on the other side. As to the personal interests affected by disestablishment, all classes are willing to give them a full and liberal consideration; but it is not statesmanship, it is a mischievous innovation on our national traditions, to raise up landed sects, seated upon the national domain, yet each holding its estate free for ever of the national Legislature, and if it please, as a nursery of chronic disaffection to the national cause.

## THE PRESBYTERIANS AND CONCURRENT ENDOWMENT.

At a meeting of the United Presbyterian Presbytery of Edinburgh, held on Tuesday—the Rev. Mr. Barlas, Musselburgh, moderator—Dr. Harper, Leith, moved a resolution to the effect that a committee be appointed to watch over the progress of the Irish Church Bill, with power to call a special meeting of the Presbytery, if necessary. He said that, in the measure for the disendowment and disestablishment of the Irish Church, there was a triumph of voluntary principles; and it was desirable that they should endeavour to strengthen the hands of the Government in carrying it through. Dr. Andrew Thomson, Edinburgh, seconded the motion. He said that, were the evil of concurrent endowment to be effected, it would be a great calamity, and they could not remain silent and see such a thing perpetrated. Mr. Brodie, Lasswade, moved that the Presbytery take no action in the matter, as it was beyond their province to meddle with such questions as the one now before them. He, however, approved the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church. Mr. Marshall, East Calder, seconded Mr. Brodie's amendment. On a division, the motion for the appointment of the committee was carried by a large majority.

Amongst the protests against concurrent endowment has been one adopted at an Edinburgh meeting representing various classes of the community, the Rev. Sir Henry Moncreiff, Bart., in the chair. The following were the resolutions adopted:—

2. That this meeting protests in the strongest terms against "concurrent" or indiscriminate endowments of religion, as tending to create the persuasion that all religions are equally true, or rather equally false, and thus to undermine all religious belief together.

That this principle, when proposed to be adopted by the late Government, was so universally repudiated by the country, that, in the general election which ensued, no candidate ever thought of mootting it to the constituencies; that a new Ministry was called to office expressly pledged against the principle so emphatically condemned; and, therefore, that its adoption now in any degree or form by the Government, or by the newly-elected House of Commons, would be such a breach of faith with the country as would inflict incalculable injury on public morality.

3. That keeping in view, on the one hand, the almost unanimous support which the Government measure has received from Scotland, and, on the other, the entire unanimity with which the principle of indiscriminate endowments is there repudiated, this meeting protests that the people of Scotland will be justified in considering themselves as specially betrayed by the adoption, in any degree, of such a principle, or by any alteration of the bill, either in the preamble or its enacting clauses, which might admit of any payments to religious bodies from the funds set free, other than in the form of equitable compensation, as provided by the bill as it left the House of Commons; and that this meeting therefore calls on their fellow-countrymen immediately and strenuously to support the Government in refusing to yield their consent to any such course as has been proposed in the House of Lords.

At a meeting of the United Presbyterian Presbytery of Cupar, held on Friday, the Rev. Mr. Gray, moderator, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That the Presbytery express its unqualified condemnation of the amendments made by the Lords on the Irish Church Bill, in so far as they are inconsistent with the principle and provisions of the bill as passed by the House of Commons; and, further, declares its determination to oppose to the uttermost any scheme of concurrent endowment, and instruct the clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the Right Hon. Mr. Gladstone and to the members of Parliament for the county and for the St. Andrew's District of Burghs.

At the last meeting of the Dunfermline United Presbyterian Presbytery, the Rev. Mr. Russell moderator, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. M. Michael:—

1. The bill proposed by her Majesty's Government for disestablishing and disendowing the Irish Church was cordially accepted by the nation, and its provisions as regards existing interests were considered, on the whole, as fair and generous, the generosity being carried out to the utmost possible extent.

2. Any further concession to the Irish Church is an act of fraud upon the constituencies, whose opinions were so deliberately expressed at the last general election, being little more than giving back with the one hand what has been taken away with the other.

3. Any concessions in the direction of what is called concurrent endowment will be looked upon as still more offensive by a large and earnest portion of the community, and will be resisted by them in every constitutional way.

4. Should either of these alterations in the original form of the bill, or, what is worse, should both of these be adopted by the Legislature, it will prove no permanent settlement of the relations of Church and State in Ireland; on the contrary, it will give rise to new agitation, deeper and more extensive than the

present, the inevitable result of which will be the speedier and more complete demolition of all ecclesiastical monopolies in every part of the empire.

5. That a petition founded on these resolutions be forwarded to both Houses of Parliament.

In a letter to the *Times*, the Rev. Mr. Maonaughan, of Belfast, thus explains the position of the Irish Presbyterian Church relative to the Irish Church Bill:—

It is a significant fact that at the recent meeting of the General Assembly, attended by upwards of 300 representatives, the moderator elected was the gentleman who seconded the nomination of Serjeant Dowse, M.P. for Derry, and a fact equally significant that no person ventured to propose a resolution or petition against the Church Bill. I am persuaded that the Presbyterians are opposed to indiscriminate, or, as it is now styled, concurrent endowment; in fact, it was the possibility of some such issue being presented to the country that led me and others in the General Assembly to insist that an additional instruction should be given to the committee who are negotiating with the Government:—

That should any proposal be made by statesmen inconsistent with the testimony which this Church has uniformly borne against the endowment of error, the committee be instructed as heretofore to maintain such testimony unimpaired, and to offer to any proposal of such endowment the most strenuous opposition.

Perhaps if the question before the country was simply whether in the matter of residences and glebe lands the Presbyterian Church would claim to be placed on a footing of equality with the Episcopalians, a majority might answer in the affirmative; but if the question be (and I am persuaded, if the provisions of the bill be departed from, it is the only form in which it will be presented) will the Presbyterian Church be a consenting party to an arrangement that will endow the 2,000 priests of Rome with residences and glebe lands, concurrently with the Episcopalians and Presbyterians, our principles and our patriotism must lead us to answer with a decided negative, and by all constitutional means to resist that process of levelling up.

I may add that although there is much diversity of sentiment among the Protestants in Ireland on the merits of the bill, there is a large amount of unity of opinion against all "levelling up," and I am persuaded that the great majority of them would rather see all ecclesiastical endowments swept away than have the three churches subsidised by the State, when that must be done, if now done at all, in proportion to their numbers and to their political influence.

## CLERICAL PETITIONS.

The following are the names of clergymen who last year declared themselves in favour of the Irish Church Bill, and who now sign a petition opposing concurrent endowment:—The Revs. Stopford A. Brooke, H. R. Haweis, J. R. Green, E. G. Hancock, James Copner, John Congreve, Chas. Howes, W. R. C. Tilson-Marsh, Bart., John Brown McClellan, Thomas Russell, Philip Hains, Charles Anderson, P. B. Brodie, C. Kagan Paul, John Bedford, C. Darby Reade, Thomas Priestly, Thomas Fowler, Alan Gardner Cornwall, G. W. Kitchin, Stopford J. Ram, E. B. Reid, D. M. Salter.

On the other hand, a list is given of clerical petitioners in favour of concurrent endowment. It is headed by Deans Stanley and Liddell, Archdeacons Sandford and Browne, Canon Westcott, Professors Lightfoot, Plumptre, and Maurice, Drs. Temple and Riddings, and upwards of 150 other clergymen. Amongst these are Dr. A. B. Evans, rector of St. Mary-le-Strand; the Rev. E. Stuart, of Munster-square; the Rev. B. Cowie, of St. Lawrence Jewry; the Rev. R. Parrott, of Great Amwell; and the Rev. W. H. Milman, of St. Paul's Cathedral, the Revs. J. L. C. Davies, E. A. Abbott, Harry Jones, W. H. Fremantle, T. W. Fowler, and R. E. Bartlett.

## MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

A meeting, convened by circular, of the leading Liberals of Manchester, was held in the Town Hall last week, for the purpose of condemning the course taken by the House of Lords in reference to the Irish Church Bill. Amongst those present were—Sir James Watts, Mr. Thomas Ashton, Mr. Henry Lee, the Rev. A. Thomson, M.A., Mr. Alderman Rumney, Mr. F. Taylor, Mr. Councillor T. B. Waters, Mr. Councillor Murray, Mr. Jos. Spencer, the Rev. T. Willis, the Rev. H. W. Parkinson, of Rochdale; the Rev. W. H. Davidson, of Bolton; Mr. Jesse Bryant, Mr. Jos. Leese, jun., Mr. Councillor Warburton, Mr. A. Ireland, Mr. H. Booth, Mr. J. B. M'Kerrow, Mr. Thomas Peel, Mr. W. Howe, Dr. Watts, Mr. J. H. Raper, the Rev. Thomas Green, Mr. A. Ashton, and Mr. G. Kearley. The chair was taken by Sir James Watts, who having briefly introduced the business of the meeting.

The Rev. A. THOMSON, M.A., moved the first resolution:—

1. That believing that the Irish Church Bill, as it left the House of Commons, was substantially in harmony with the resolutions of that House last session, and with the wishes of the country, as emphatically expressed at the general election, this meeting regards with great concern the attempts now being made in the House of Lords to effect such changes in the measure as will frustrate in many important respects the purpose of its framers, and violate the principles of religious equality.

He said that the question was not one of a preference for this or that Church, but of justice to Ireland. (Cheers.) If the Lords' amendments were adopted, it would be dismally to the measure as a measure of conciliation to Ireland. As a minister of religion, he was ashamed of the proceedings of the bishops in the House of Lords haggling over the money. (Cheers.) It was disgraceful to a Christian nation; and nothing could more truly show the debasing influence of an Establishment upon the principles of those who fell under its influences. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. FRANCIS TAYLOR having briefly seconded the resolution, it was supported by Mr. HUGH MASON and Mr. THOS. ASHTON, and carried unanimously,

Mr. Alderman RUMNEY moved the second resolution:—

2. That this meeting strongly deprecates all proposals which have in view the re-endowment of the Dissenting Church, as also those which profess to attain religious equality by means of indiscriminate endowment; and deems it to be of the utmost importance that her Majesty's Ministers and the Liberal party in the House of Commons should be assured of the earnest desire of those who have hitherto supported the bill, that it should not pass in a form which would disappoint the just expectations of the country, and have the effect of prolonging the controversy which it was intended to close. He said there never was a crisis in which the House of Lords did not endeavour to maintain privilege in preference to principle. No one here believed in a reversal of the judgment of the country, as pronounced at the general election.

The Rev. Dr. BEARD seconded the resolution. He thought nothing could more thoroughly show how emasculating an endowment by the State was than the efforts of the Lords to retain the money at the cost of justice to Ireland. He did not believe that the aim of our opponents was to secure religious equality by means of indiscriminate endowments. They meant that if you will give large sums to the pet child, you may give smaller sums to the other children. What we wanted was justice to all and preference to none. We ought to go in for perfect religious equality in England as well as Ireland, so as to be in harmony with the high thought of Europe. That was the note that must be sounded out—no ascendancy, no sectarian pre-eminence, but equality. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. E. BOYER supported the resolution, and urged that their motto should be, "The bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Sir Jas. Watts having left the chair, it was taken by Mr. J. Spencer, when a vote of thanks to Sir James for presiding was moved by Dr. WATTS, seconded by Mr. J. B. M'KERROW, and passed unanimously.

In the course of the proceedings, a letter was from the Rev. Jas. Gwyther (who was unable to be present), in which he says, "Whilst greatly rejoicing at the rejection of the proposal of the Duke of Cleveland, that only renders still more objectionable the proposal of the Marquis of Salisbury, which was carried. I believe that the interest as well as the honour of Protestantism, requires the passing of Mr. Gladstone's noble bill in the same form, substantially, as when it left the House of Commons."

BLACKBURN.—A meeting of the inhabitants of Darwen, East Lancashire, attended by about 2,000 persons, and under the presidency of Mr. Eccles Shorrock, J.P., high constable of the district, was held in the Co-operative Hall, on Friday evening, in support of the Irish Church Bill, as passed by the Commons. The principal speakers were the Revs. J. McDougal and T. Davies. The conduct of the friends of the Irish Church in fighting for a large share of the spoil while conceding the principle of disestablishment and disendowment, was spoken of as unworthy the professors of true religion and a high-toned morality. Resolutions earnestly desiring that the bill, as passed by the House of Commons, may, without any injurious alteration, become the law of the land; and recording insuperable objection alike to the increased endowment of the Protestant Church, and to the concurrent endowment of other religious bodies—the former as involving injustice to the Irish people, and the latter as being pernicious to the welfare of the State and the interests of religion—were carried enthusiastically. A petition to the House of Commons, embodying the resolutions, was unanimously adopted.

The DALKEITH LIBERATION COMMITTEE have unanimously adopted the following resolution regarding the Irish Church Bill:—

This committee having considered the amendments made in the Irish Church Bill in the House of Lords, is of opinion that these amendments are so contrary to the principle and design of the measure, and so opposed to the opinion of the country, as emphatically expressed at the late general election, that the Liberal majority of the House of Commons cannot accept them without a dereliction of duty, and that her Majesty's Ministers ought not to submit to any material alterations in the measure as passed by the House of Commons.

A public meeting was to have been held on Monday night. The feeling in this district is we are told "very strong."

BIRMINGHAM.—A meeting of the general committee of the Liberal Association of this town was held on Friday evening for the purpose of taking into consideration the Irish Church Bill in its present condition. There were about 140 members of the committee present, including the more prominent members of the party. Mr. J. S. Wright presided. A discussion occurred, in which the chairman, Mr. Alderman Hawkes, Mr. John Jaffray, Mr. Councillor Harris, and the Ven. Archdeacon Sandford took part. The views insisted on were that the country had most unmistakably pronounced upon the question of the Irish Church; that a unanimity, perhaps unparalleled, had been displayed by the Liberal party in the House of Commons; that Mr. Gladstone's bill, pure and simple, had been accepted by the people; and that the latter ought now to protest stoutly against the obnoxious amendments introduced into the bill by the Lords, in effect undoing what the representatives of the people had so well done. Ultimately the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That this committee, representing the Liberals of Birmingham, desires to express its earnest hope that the House of Commons will support her Majesty's Ministers in securing in the Irish Church Bill the great principle of religious equality, violated by the amendments introduced by the House of Lords, and that this

committee protests emphatically against re-endowment or concurrent endowment in any form.

It was left to the executive to either transmit this resolution to Mr. Gladstone or send it by deputation. It was further resolved that an open-air meeting should be held on Saturday to petition the House of Commons to reject the Lords' amendments to the Irish Church Bill, and to express the continued confidence of the people in Mr. Gladstone's Government. Perfect unanimity, and even enthusiasm, prevailed at the meeting.

EDINBURGH.—A preliminary meeting, representing various classes of the community, was held on Thursday last in St. Andrew's-square, Edinburgh, the Rev. S. Henry Moncreiff in the chair, at which it was arranged to call an early public meeting in the event of concurrent endowment being carried in the Lords. Copies of the draft resolutions were read, and it was resolved to transmit them to Mr. Gladstone.

DOVER.—The committee of the Dover Liberal Association have forwarded petitions against the Lords' amendments on the bill. Mr. Jessel is to present the petition to the Commons, which is signed by Mr. Jinnis, on behalf of the association.

DUNDEE.—A meeting was held on Monday night in the Kinnaird Hall, Dundee, at which the amendments of the Lords were condemned.

PERTH.—The Town Council of Perth have petitioned against the amendments. In moving the petition Mr. McDonald said that when the bill left the House of Commons it was well fitted to effect the purposes its promoters had in view, and when their excellent member voted with the majority on the bill, he fairly represented the views of his constituency. There had, however, been quite a competition in the House of Lords, among dukes and earls, as to who should have the honour to do the greatest amount of mischief to the bill, and, as they were aware, various amendments had been moved and carried in the Lords. Mr. McDonald, after referring in detail to these amendments, and pointing out their effect on the bill, moved that the council petition both Houses of Parliament in support of the bill as it passed through the House of Commons. (Loud applause.) Mr. Jamieson seconded the motion, and said that he need make no remark after the clear statement made by Mr. McDonald. The motion was then carried unanimously. This was all the business.

LYMINGTON.—The Lymington Liberal Association met on Tuesday last and passed a series of resolutions against the amendments, which were discussed with considerable interest and animation, and were unanimously carried. There is no want of a deep interest being felt in this borough on the great questions of the day; and though it is, to most political intents and purposes, dead for the present, it is not by any means satisfied with its present position, and will, when the proper time arrives, show that, however it may be depressed and kept down by Conservative influences, it is, nevertheless, thoroughly Liberal at heart. The adoption of such a measure as the ballot would prove a political resurrection of the dead.

SHREWSBURY.—A meeting of the General Committee of the Shrewsbury Liberal Association was held on Wednesday evening. There were present the Revs. C. Croft, H. Angus, W. Wooding, B.A., G. Wyard, W. Jones, R. Davies, and G. Kettle, Mr. T. Piddock, Mr. J. Heath, Mr. J. Phipps, Mr. S. F. Williams, &c., representing the various Nonconformist denominations of Shrewsbury. The meeting was unanimous in its condemnation of the endowing policy of the Lords, and expressed its emphatic opinion that the bill can be acceptable to the country, and satisfactorily settle the question, only in the form in which it passed the House of Commons. It was resolved that the views of the Nonconformists of Shrewsbury be represented to Mr. Gladstone and the legislature in the shape of petitions from the ministers and congregations of the Free Churches in the town.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—A large meeting of Liberals was held here on Monday, Mr. Joseph Cowen, jun., in the chair, at which strong resolutions against the Lords' amendments were passed, and arrangements made to hold a large popular gathering there on Wednesday to petition the House of Commons to reject altogether the Lords' amendments.

THE BLACKBURN PROTESTANT DEMONSTRATION.—Sir J. E. Bardsley Wilmot presided on Saturday over a gathering which had been called on Blackheath to protest against the disestablishment of the Irish Church, and to express sympathy with the House of Lords in the opposition of that body to the principle of the Government measure. As a "demonstration" the meeting was a failure; the attendance was small, and of those who were present, the promoters of the movement were in a considerable minority.

#### MR. GLADSTONE ON CONCURRENT ENDOWMENT.

The following important correspondence between the Independent Orange Association of Ulster and the Prime Minister has been published:—

The memorial of the Independent Orange Association of Ulster sheweth:—

That although your memorialists view with regret the action taken by you and your supporters in the House of Commons in relation to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Protestant religion, yet they feel far greater regret and indignation from the course taken by the peers and bishops in the House of Lords in their efforts to get Romanism and Antichristian error endowed.

That the sentiment of the Independent Orange Association of Ulster is totally against the endowment

of Romanism, and believe that the Conservative party in both Houses would concede even the vital principles of religion for the sake of retaining their own endowments, thinking more of the paltry wealth of this world than the religion of Christ; but memorialists are not surprised at the course taken by the "Right Rev. Prelates," when they call to mind the action taken by some of them on the occasion of our glorious Revolution; as we find Bishop Sancroft in England, and Bishop Hopkins in Derry, refused taking the oath of allegiance, or even to acknowledge our great deliverer, fearing they might thus endanger their worldly position.

That memorialists would therefore earnestly press upon you the absolute necessity of your using your great influence to counteract the devices of those men, infinitely preferring complete disestablishment and disendowment than that the Church of Rome should be paid by a Protestant State, as they totally repudiate the slanderous doctrine that Protestantism could not exist without the connection and aid of the State, as they know that the Primitive Church was untrammelled by State aid or control when she achieved her greatest victories, being prior to the invasion of Henry II. altogether supported by voluntary contributions, as it is a fact well authenticated that it required all the fraud of Pope Adrian and the force and influence of Henry II. to subject the Primitive Church (then Protestant) to the Papacy and connection with the State.

That memorialists also wish earnestly to press on your attention the deep interest they and the Protestant farmers and artisans of Ulster take in the rectification and settlement of the land laws of Ireland, as Ulster as well as the South and West of Ireland is becoming depopulated from the avarice and oppression of absent landlords, who, if the farmer has made any improvement, immediately, or after the service of the usual "notice to quit," put on a higher rent and tax his improvements, thus driving him, an enemy to British power, to seek a home in the Far West, and those who remain are compelled to exercise the franchise at the bidding of the landlord, the tenure being so precarious that they are as much at the mercy of the landlord as the Russian serf that of his master.

Memorialists therefore pray that you will use your utmost endeavours to confound the devices of the party who wish to get Romanism endowed, and grant to the farmers of Ireland an equitable land measure.

Signed on behalf of the { W. H. WALKER, President.  
THOS. BROWN, Treasurer.  
Association. JAS. McFARLAND, Secretary.

Belfast, July 10, 1869.

10, Downing-street, July 12, 1869.

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Gladstone to acknowledge the receipt of your letter transmitting the memorial of the Independent Orange Association of Ulster, relating to the Irish Church Bill now before Parliament. Mr. Gladstone desires me to request that you will assure those on behalf of whom you write, that her Majesty's Government, anxious above all things for the success of the great measure which they have taken the responsibility of introducing, will give no countenance either to direct proposal of concurrent endowment, or to any plan for the postponement of those provisions of the bill which relate to the ultimate appropriation of the residuary property of the Church. They regard any such postponement, independently of the incalculable mischief of keeping alive the controversy for an indefinite period, as the almost acknowledged road to concurrent endowment at some future time. With respect to the last paragraph of the memorial, relating to the laws affecting land in Ireland, I am to inform you that her Majesty's Government have already declared their intention, as soon as the Church question shall have been settled, to frame a measure for the improvement of those laws, which will aim at placing them on a footing of justice to all the parties whom they may affect.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) WM. B. GURDON.

Jas. M'Farland, Esq., &c.

In reply to a letter from the Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Walsall, to Mr. Gladstone, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting of Nonconformist and Wesleyan ministers at Walsall, to the effect "that the endowment of Episcopalians, Presbyterians, and Roman Catholics, in the shape of glebes, manors, and otherwise, would be in direct opposition to the leading principles of the Irish Church Bill, and a violation of religious equality," Mr. Algernon Wise—writing for Mr. Gladstone—calls attention to the fact "that the plans in question have neither originated with nor found countenance from her Majesty's Government."

#### MR. GLADSTONE'S IRISH CHURCH POLICY.

(From the *British Quarterly Review* for July.)

Yet, in such a House, resting on the moribund foundation of a moribund constituency, this contemptible leader instantly raised a majority of half a hundred votes out of confessedly none. What was the magic of this miracle? Not Mr. Gladstone's sudden and personal popularity. He is no single-speech Hamilton. His Parliamentary reputation is of old. At the very time he was discredited, and in that very House (we say so with perfect simplicity) detested with a double detestation by the Liberals, who had betrayed him, and by the Tories, who had outbid him. Whence then came this sudden and miraculous majority? From the British Catholics? But they are, all in all, a small minority. From the Dissenters? But the Dissenters are then supreme? From the Protestants as such? But, then, what means all this pretended "Protestant" hubbub and reaction? We always thought that the Dissenters of England are the backbone of the Protestantism of England. Yet the Dissenters of England, not to mention Scotland and Wales, are to a man Gladstonian; and, after the most microscopic investigation of the "Chapter of Autobiography," they remain to a man enthusiastically Gladstonian still. Now, what does all this mean? By what Jesuitical contrivances did that Arch-Anti-Newdegate-and-Whalley, the Pope at Rome, hoodwink all the English, and Welsh, and Scotch Dissenters, who, by the admission of all parties, are, if they are anything, Protestant (that is to say, with their liberty in their hand) and political (that is to say, with both eyes in their heads)? Only one supposition really remains, virtually Lord Derby's. Mr. Gladstone appealed to the combination of all the great political parties in the State on the Liberal side. And, even in a moribund Parliament, the answer was electric and instantaneous. In their anger and alarm the Conservatives instantly appealed to the fanaticism of the country. The clergy of the Church of England began an active crusade among their congregations. Clergymen were known to refuse the sacrament to voters who intimated approval of Mr. Gladstone's policy. No report, no lie, no calumny, no trick was too gross to be resorted to in order to blacken Mr. Gladstone's character, public and private, and to discredit the Liberal policy. Above all the public was assured that the new elections would cover the Liberals with confusion, and triumphantly maintain the Irish Establishment. The whole subject was ploughed and cross-ploughed over every square mile of the country; nothing else was discussed; peers, baronets, squires, squires, clergymen, ministers, lawyers, doctors, farmers, priest and layman, the whole country, with the press at its head, rushed into the arena. Long before the elections were over the public had grown weary of the weary round of threadbare arguments, and a discussion ransacked into its minutest corners. The result came at last, and Mr. Gladstone, in the new Parliament, had more than twice the majority he had in the old—a majority so large as to be even politically phenomenal. His bill corresponded with all his previous professions. Nothing more complete, more thorough, more coherent, more matured, or more considerate, had been laid before an English Parliament within the memory of man. It was so considerate that after Mr. Gladstone's speech even the English landowners went about the lobby of the House of Commons saying that if such terms were offered to them, they would not care much if the English Church were disestablished also. The bill was so matured that, as it was repeatedly said, to accept any part was to accept the whole. It was swept through the House, past a raking fire which tested every joint in it successively, by undiminished and even increasing majorities. Even those parts over which some Liberals at the outset shook their heads in doubt, such as the compensation clause to Maynooth, were passed triumphantly when their turn came. Meanwhile, everything was done to inflame the country and divide the Liberal ranks in and out of doors. In vain. Day by day, week after week, the telegraph and the post reported the constituents resolutely bent on carrying out Mr. Gladstone's policy. His first speech was one of the masterpieces of the century, and took even the Opposition by storm. The publication of the bill was a perfect ovation, and subsequent criticisms left it perfectly untouched. Such being the unadorned account of the past history of the bill, how can anyone accustomed to political forecast permit himself for one moment to suppose that Mr. Gladstone and the Liberal party will recede the fraction of one inch from their position and their principle, and by giving glebes and houses to all the denominations in Ireland, adopt in power the policy which they overthrew in opposition. We may be quite certain that, short of softening of the brain, Mr. Gladstone is the last man in the world to cut his own throat by any such act of *felo de se*. Not only would such a compromise bring one of the strongest, the most thorough, and the most straightforward governments on record into the most deserved contempt, but a policy more puerile and unstatesmanlike could not be imagined. We can even see Mr. Disraeli on his legs, and hear his speech. That would be a speech to hear. No, if there is one thing which has become more axiomatic than another in the present state of things, it is that the Dissenters can no longer be left out of the reckoning. More than that, in shaping the religious policy of the country they have become supreme. Voluntaryism in religion has won the day: Establishments have lost it, and will not recover their ground. Can anything more stupid be conceived, than that when the tide is running full in that direction, when the fate of the English and Scotch Establishments is only a question of years—in a country where the religious life is so strong, the religious mind so active, that the number and different forms of Christian organisation are almost under yearly modification—England, with the accumulated legacy of centuries of dreary religious difficulties, should begin again to plant fresh plantations, and sow fresh religious difficulties broadcast over the land, at the very moment when, for the first time in her political life, she begins to see daylight out of her troubles. What? imprison a crowd of conflicting sects on beds of Procrustes by granting them glebes, and lay down the principle that the Government must give glebes and houses to every new sect under pain of new agitation? Has England, then, an American continent out of which to carve lands and glebes, and grant houses to all comers? One wonders what the men's brains are made of who can moot such policies. For a despotic Government to pay religions out of the public cash box, that is conceivable and consistent; but in a free country, in which religious bodies have been bursting their bonds and breaking bounds these last five hundred years, and all snatching in turn at the helm of the State, the proposal gravely to lay down the corner-stone of a brand new system of universal and concurrent endowment, this is probably as wild an idea as ever entered into the irresponsible heads of a political Agamemone. It will soon be disposed of, however. The talk that is heard is only worth recording as a phenomenon and test of old Whig and Tory wisdom on the first day of July, in the year of grace 1869.

## THE LORDS' DIVISIONS ON THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

In the majority of 160 which carried Lord Cairns's amendment for postponing the appropriation of the Irish Church surplus were the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, and Dublin, and the following Liberal peers:—The Dukes of Cleveland and Grafton; Earls Cowley, Meath, and Scarborough; and Lords Aveland, Congleton, Crewe, Lyveden, Stanley of Alderley, Stratheden, and Talbot de Malahide. The Marquis of Clanricarde and Earl Grey also voted with the majority. The only prelate who supported the Government was the Bishop of Oxford. Earl Russell and Lord Westbury did not vote. The Earl of Shaftesbury went into the lobby with the minority.

The minority which supported the Ministry in the House of Lords on Friday night on Lord Clanricarde's amendment relative to glebe houses, included seventeen peers who, on that day week, had voted for the motion now proposed to be rescinded. They were the Dukes of Cleveland and Leinster, the Marquises of Clanricarde and Sligo, Earls Charlemont, Cowley, Grey, Lichfield, Minto, and Somers, Viscount Halifax, Lords Athlumney, Belper, Stanley of Alderley, Stratheden, Sudeley, and Vernon. Earl Russell voted against the Government on both occasions. No prelate went with the minority on Friday, while with the majority there were the Archbishops of Canterbury and Dublin, and the Bishops of Bangor, Derry, Lichfield, London, Peterborough, and Tuam.

In the division on Lord Devon's amendment to exclude the Irish bishops from the House of Lords, several Conservative and independent Liberal peers voted with the Government in favour of the amendment. The majority included the Dukes of Cleveland and Wellington, the Marquises of Bath and Winchester, Earls Carnarvon, Denbigh, Grey, Radnor, Russell, and Stanhope, and Lord Westbury. None of the bishops voted to exclude their disestablished brethren from the peers' House. The minority in favour of keeping the bishops in the House included the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Malmesbury, Earl Nelson, the Bishop of Ely, Gloucester, Lichfield, Peterborough, and Rochester, Lord Cairns, and Lord Chelmsford.

In the minority of 82 which voted in the House of Lords in favour of retaining the Irish prelates in that assembly, were the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of Ely, Gloucester, Lichfield, Peterborough, and Rochester. The Irish bishops abstained from voting, and no prelate assisted to swell the numbers of the majority. Lords Cairns, Chelmsford, and Derby were in the minority. Amongst the Conservative Peers who supported the Government were the Duke of Wellington, the Marquises of Bath and Winchester, the Earls of Carnarvon, Cawdor, De la Warr, Denbigh, Devon, Lucan, and Stanhope. The Marquis of Salisbury did not vote.

The subsequent division, which by a small majority affirmed the principle of concurrent endowment, is chiefly remarkable from the fact that several peers supported the motion who voted against the scheme of the Duke of Cleveland only ten days previously. The lords who thus changed sides, and now passed under the wands of the tellers for the contents, were eight in number, and were—the Duke of Wellington, the Marquis of Huntly, the Earls of Denbigh, Dunmore, and Malmesbury, Viscount Melville, and Lords Calthorpe and Hastings. The advocates of concurrent endowment now mustered eight more than they did on the 2nd inst., while its opponents were thirty-two fewer.

## THE ORANGE CELEBRATIONS.

The "Twelfth" has passed quietly. Greater meetings of Orangemen all over Ulster have taken place than ever before. At all of them the Processions Act was openly violated. Orangemen marched in procession with music, and banners. An immense demonstration took place at Killyman, county Tyrone; Mr. Johnston, M.P., presiding, and 25,000 people and 139 lodges being present. The Orangemen marched in procession, with full regalia, and firing shots. Mr. Johnston made a temperate speech. At Saintfield, county Down, there was another large gathering, 106 lodges being present. At Antrim there was another, Lord Massereene, who was made an Orangeman on Saturday, presiding. About forty lodges met in the Duke of Manchester's demesne, Tandragee. The Orangemen of Portadown assembled in full force at Moira, county Down. Resolutions were passed against the Church Bill and the Processions Act. The Rev. Mr. Whalley, an Episcopalian, described Mr. Gladstone as an agent of the devil. At Greysteep and Lambeg, the latter especially, large meetings have been held in addition to minor meetings. Belfast was quiet on Monday night; the infantry, constabulary, and Lancers, being in disturbed districts. Never before were so many soldiers and police in the province. Eight hundred armed Catholics met in the Muffglen, a few miles from Londonderry. On returning to the city, they attacked individuals in the streets. A scuffle with Protestants took place; one Catholic was stabbed, but not dangerously. The police interfered, and order was restored.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* telegraphs yesterday as follows:—"No intelligence of any disturbance yesterday has reached Dublin. There were large crowds in the Dublin streets last night, but the Orange meeting at the Rotundo passed off peacefully. The principal Ulster meeting was at Killipuran. Mr. Johnston said they would not con-

sent after disestablishment to be trammelled by any connection with the State. The laity must then have their share in the government of the Church. A Free Church in Ireland would be more of a Protestant Church than it would be if tied neck and heels to the Church in England. They protested against concurrent endowment in any and every form. They wanted more practical ministerial efforts by the dignitaries of the Church in Ireland, not that they should continue to sit in the House of Lords. He stood there to represent the Protestant democratic principle." We learn also that Belfast continued quiet, and there is no information of disturbances from the country districts. Twenty-six prisoners were brought up at the Belfast police-court yesterday for stone-throwing, waylaying, and breaking windows, and were fined in various amounts. This was in connection with the disturbance of Sunday night, which was a mere street row.

## INTENDED CONTINUANCE OF THE PRELATIC ESTABLISHMENT IN ULSTER.

(From the *Londonderry Standard*.)

We beg the earnest attention not only of Presbyterian, but of all other classes of non-Episcopalian readers to the effect of the amendment which, on Monday evening last, was introduced into the Irish Church Bill on the motion of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The immediate result of this so-called amendment is to hand over to the disestablished State Church, as a collective free gift, all the glebes and glebe-lands which under any grant made by the Crown since the second year of Queen Elizabeth, have been vested in the Church by law established, and consequently to bestow the whole Plantation grants of James I. upon the disestablished Church, under the pretence of their having been *privates* endowments in the first instance. This is one of the most impudent mockeries of common sense, as well as of public history, which the House of Lords has yet attempted, and it is a matter in which the Presbyterian and Nonconforming populations of Ulster are deeply interested. Every one who has read the "Conditions of Plantation," and other official documents, which were issued under the authority of the King and Privy Council, at the time of the Plantation, knows that King James did not even make private grants to private undertakers, but accompanied every one of his grants, even to individuals, with public conditions rendering all interests subordinate to the general policy of the State. In virtue of this policy the Irish Society itself—the "governing body" of the whole Plantation, to which body the entire county of Derry had originally been conveyed by the Crown, has been judicially declared by the House of Lords to be only a body of trustees, who are bound to administer their funds for the benefit of the people of Derry and Coleraine; and yet the same House of Lords, when acting in their non-judicial character, now coolly vote Church parsonages and glebes, granted during life to Established clergymen, to be the perpetual inheritances of a succession of non-established clergymen. In the 17th century, the idea of any such race of clergymen as this had never entered into the public mind even as an abstract conception, far less into that of the reigning monarch, who knew nothing of any Church save only as a State institution. The legal theory of all Church property from the beginning has been, and still is, that, on the death of the tenant for life, the property immediately reverts to the Crown, and accordingly, on the demise of a bishop, for example, it was formerly the practice of the Crown to resume into his own hands all the temporalities of the See until a successor had been regularly appointed. In order to prevent the waste frequently arising from this usage, the Crown consented to temporary arrangements during the episcopal vacancies, but the principle of the legal reversion still continued as before to be the theory of law. Church property in fact was never conferred upon any mere denomination as such; it was given to the Church solely and exclusively in virtue of its establishment as a State corporation, and the moment this corporation is dissolved, its property necessarily reverts to the Crown, or in modern phraseology to the State. The principle acted upon by the House of Lords in the case under review is therefore not only false in its historical analogies, but in direct contradiction to the first elements of all ecclesiastical law, even as expounded by Anglican jurists themselves.

It was, we think, Lord Elcho who, in one of his outdoor speeches, first threw out the idea that Episcopacy might be disestablished in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, but as Ulster is a great "Protestant" province, the Episcopalian Establishment ought to be continued in our Northern community. This ingenious device excited some laughter at the time, but at length other speculators ventured to reproduce it, and now the deed is virtually done, so far as the power of the House of Lords extends. The object palpably is to re-endow Irish Episcopacy to the utmost possible extent, and thus to give it such a material predominance over Presbyterianism as to swallow up the latter in the progress of time. This is a scheme which our community must not tolerate for an instant, and accordingly a strong deputation of Presbyterian laymen to London, for the purpose of strengthening the hands of our General Assembly's Ministerial Embassy, still actively at work in that quarter, might be a movement of fundamental importance at the present crisis, and we throw out this suggestion in the hope of its being promptly acted upon. It is true that Ulster contains perhaps two-thirds of the whole Episcopalian population of Ireland; but in Ulster, according to the census of 1861, Presbyterians outnumber Episcopilians in the proportion of 55 to 40, while the Roman Catholic population amounts to

960,613, being nearly 20,000 more than Presbyterians and Episcopilians taken together. On the ground of numbers, then, Irish Episcopacy has no right to any State predominance in Ulster, and bearing in mind the experience of past times, our Church, we feel confident, will never submit to the establishment of any new Prelatic ascendancy in the Northern Province, or anywhere else.

## THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL.

The following are said to be the subjects that will be discussed at the Ecumenical Council:—1. Pantheism, Naturalism, and Absolute Rationalism. 2. Modified Rationalism. 3. Indifference and Tolerance. 4. Socialism, Communism, Secret Societies, Bible Societies, and Clerical Liberal Societies. 5. Errors with respect to the Church and her rights. 6. Errors with respect to civil society in itself, and in its relation to the Church. 7. Errors with respect to natural and Christian morals. 8. With respect to Christian marriage. 9. With respect to the sovereignty of the Roman Pope. 10. With respect to modern Liberalism.

Opposition to the movement is being strongly developed, especially in Germany. Prince Henneberg of Bavaria has issued a remarkable circular despatch to the Bavarian diplomatic agents on the subject of the forthcoming Ecumenical Council, in which he points out that as certain clauses of the Papal Syllabus of the 8th December, which it is proposed to make into positive canons at the Council, are directed against the fundamental axioms of civil government, the various Governments will have to consider what steps they will take concerning the Council.

In an article referring to the approaching Council, the *Times* says:—"The bishops who are to sit in St. Peter's in December next are expected to exceed 850 in number. When all this powerful hierarchy has been collected, it may again be asked, what will the Pope do with it? The object of the Council could hardly be the canonisation of martyrs or virgins, by the proclamation of a new dogma, seeing that such matters have already been settled by this same Pontiff with the consent of very large but not 'Ecumenic' ecclesiastical convocations. The Council of Trent closed the mediæval period of the Church. Pope Pius wishes to prove that Councils, like all other ecclesiastical institutions, are of all ages; that with the Church nothing can be out of date. Ideas, however, once started, are apt to travel far. The Pope's scheme of a Council has been taken up by men who can see further than the Pope himself, and hence the conviction now generally prevails that something unforeseen, something portentous, is to be the upshot of the forthcoming Prelatic Parliament. The purely spiritual part of the Council's business will be readily disposed of. The dogma of the 'Bodily Assumption' of the Virgin Mary may be made to stand on the same rock of authority on which, for the last fifteen years, that of her 'Immaculate Conception' is resting. But it is far otherwise with the question of Papal infallibility. That is a question involving matters of discipline as well as of faith; and it revives controversies which have convulsed the Church almost from its rise. That the Church itself is infallible, is a point which no believer allows himself to dispute. What remains to be settled is, 'What is the Church?' Is the Pope the Church, or does the Church embrace all the faithful, or at least the whole clergy, or, finally, the whole episcopal order? Is Catholicism a republic, a constitutional state, or an absolute monarchy? And, first, as to the lay congregation, the matter seems to have been promptly set at rest. The laity will have no voice in the Council."

## CHRISTIANITY IN MADAGASCAR.

A few days previous to the society's annual meeting intelligence reached the directors of the London Missionary Society that the Queen herself had been baptized. Touching details were given of the origin and growth of her convictions; and it was observed with special pleasure that she was received into the faith by her native pastors, and in accordance with the rules prevalent in the native church. All that has since been written on the matter more than confirms the impressions conveyed by these gratifying tidings. The Queen has learned the catechism like her people. Like her people, she has definitively professed the Protestant faith, and declines to worship with the French Catholics.

Since the Queen was baptized (writes Mr. Toy) almost all the higher officers are coming forward as candidates for baptism. I have now at Ambohipoty more than a hundred under weekly instruction. Among these are, the chief of the idol keepers, the late Queen's astrologer, several of the present Queen's household, the head of the civilians, and other members of the Government, many of whom are getting quite old men. This great influx of those who were a short time ago idolaters, and some of them fierce persecutors of Christianity, is not without its risk. We are all conscious of the peculiar dangers to which it is exposed, but we can do nothing more than pursue an open and straightforward course, faithfully doing our duty, by instilling right principles, directing and guiding as far as possible the course of events, and committing ourselves and our work into hands of Him who has the hearts of all men under His control.

Last year twenty thousand persons joined the Christian congregation. The missionaries expect the same addition, if not a larger one, during the present year. Everywhere, therefore, church building is most active, and the mission press has its hands more than full. Mr. Cousins writes:—

A very clear indication of the rapid increase in our congregations is the fact which you will find noticed in our minutes, that 100 congregations are looking to us

for help to build either new or larger chapels. We have only been able to grant a small sum to each congregation, but we think the directors will be willing to put a further sum at our disposal, so that we may make a second donation to each congregation six months hence, when the doors and windows will have to be bought. About one-third of the chapels to be built will afford accommodation for from 800 to 1,200 hearers each.

Mr. Toy communicates some interesting intelligence relative to the instruction of native pastors. He says:—

Mr. Cousins and myself commenced our new duties on Wednesday. We have nearly forty students to begin with, exclusive of some of the pastors who wish to attend as often as possible. I do trust that we shall be able to do our work successfully, and that God will prosper this undertaking and make it the means of advancing His glory. At present the young men are very zealous, and things look most encouraging, but whether they will have the diligence and perseverance necessary to continue their studies when the novelty of the thing has worn away, may be open to doubt. With all our other work pressing upon us, it will be no inconsiderable tax upon our energies and strength.

**THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANS.**—The basis of reunion between the Old and New School Presbyterian Churches in the United States has been submitted to the various subordinate presbyteries, and their votes upon it are now being taken, with so general a result in its favour as to indicate that the re-union will be successfully consummated.

**THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LORDS' AMENDMENTS.**—It is said, we know not with what truth, that the Government will be prepared to accept a compromise in respect to Lord Carnarvon's rearrangement of the commuted life interests on the fourteen years principle, in the shape of an addition of seven per cent to the actual value, the latter being the principle upon which the bill provides for such commutation.

**SPURIOUS RELIGIOUS EQUALITY.**—Had the scheme of concurrent endowment been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Lords' amendments, about 7s. 6d. a head would be devoted to the interests of the Roman Catholic population of Ireland, £1 a head to the teaching of the Westminster Confession, and more than £20 a head to the religious purposes of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

**BISHOP GOSS AND THE 30,000/- WILL CASE.**—Dr. Goss, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Liverpool, was recently left heir to property valued at 30,000/- by Mr. Samuel Moreton, a solicitor, of Liverpool. Against this will the widow entered a caveat in the district probate court, asserting that her husband at the time he made the will was of unsound mind. Mrs. Moreton and the bishop have, however, just come to an amicable arrangement. She is to withdraw the caveat and certain notices she has issued to tenants, and is to receive 200/- a year and a farm and property near Chester.

**CHURCH PATRONAGE IN SCOTLAND.**—The clerical leaders of the Church of Scotland regard with confidence the prospect that a bill for the abolition of patronage will be introduced into Parliament next session. In the meantime the consent of a large proportion of the patrons has been obtained to the relinquishment of their right of patronage. The financial part of the scheme has for its basis the estimate of the patrons' interest, as at one year's purchase of the living, and no lack of funds is anticipated for a settlement with patrons based on this calculation. If the patrons would uniformly agree to this arrangement there might be no need of going to Parliament at all. The Church or individual congregations might acquire the patronages, and settle them in accordance with the programme agreed upon by the General Assembly.—*London Scotsman*.

**ECCLÉSIASTICAL REFORMS IN RUSSIA.**—A Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily News* is the first to make us acquainted with a great ecclesiastical revolution which has just been effected in Russia by a stroke of the Emperor's pen. Hitherto the ministerial or priestly office in the Russo-Greek Church has been hereditary; it will be so no longer. It became so about the time of Peter the Great; and, as marriage is almost as indispensable to a Russian priest as celibacy to a Roman one, it has ever since been increasing in numbers and poverty, until it became the chief business of the bishops to devise means for feeding the inferior clergy; and the Church was simply an institution for providing for the wants of those hereditarily attached to its service. The priesthood was never recruited from the ranks of the rich and the educated, and its degradation was necessarily constant. Now there is to be a new distribution of parishes on the basis of population, each of which will be served only by an incumbent and a "psalmist," the office of deacon being abolished, except in cathedral towns. The vested interests of the dispossessed priests have been carefully considered. Other ecclesiastical reforms are in contemplation; this one is called the "Emancipation of the Clergy."

**A CHURCH WITHOUT A CREED.**—The *Saturday Review*, in some remarks on Dr. Davidson and Mr. Voysey, admits that old dogmatical prejudices may be dying out, that the world may possibly be growing wiser and more liberal in its belief, and advancing daily, to use Dr. Davidson's language, in the path of "true religion and the promotion of rational liberty." But long before Dr. Davidson's Catholic ideal of a creedless or almost creedless faith has been reached, the day of Established Churches will have passed away. It seems doubtful in any case whether it will last much longer. Disestablishment in Ireland has given a blow to the principle, and in a somewhat different way it is weakened by the recurrence of such cases as the St. Alban's or Voysey prosecution. The *Review* quite agrees with Dr.

Davidson that there is a great deal to be said for established as opposed to voluntary churches, and that, up to a certain point, they afford a valuable guarantee for religious freedom. But there is a point beyond which freedom cannot be pushed without merging into anarchy, and disintegrating the whole system. How nearly that point has already been reached in the Church of England the *Review* will not undertake to say, but that her fabric will not bear many more such rough experiments as we have witnessed of late seems clear enough.

**ARCHDEACON ALLEN AND CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL ORGANISATION.**—The *Shrewsbury Chronicle* reports a remarkable meeting, assembled by Archdeacon Allen at the village of Prees, in Shropshire. It appears to have been suggested by an association formed by the Rev. H. Meynell, at Denstone, and is clearly an attempt upon the part of some devout and earnest clergyman to form inner societies bearing a similar relation to the bulk of the attendants at church which "the church" among Independents does to the congregation. Only those were invited "who had openly made a profession of obedience to all our Saviour's commandments, and who also made an open profession of their desire to live in communion with their brethren." It was settled that all meetings should be commenced with prayer and reading of the Scripture, and papers were to be read bearing on practical devotion and work—such as "How may we get more heartiness in public worship?" "How to discourage drunkenness," "How to promote Christianity," "The duty of sponsors, and how to help those who are confirmed," "Farm lads, and how we may help them." Mr. Meynell wrote that he could distinctly trace a practical result from every meeting they had held. Twelve "rules for daily life" were approved and ordered to be printed for the use of the members as "helps to duty."

**DISTRESS FOR TITHE-RENT IN LANCASHIRE.**—On the 23rd ult. distress was made upon William Ecroyd, Esq., of Lomeshaw, for the tithe-rent due to John Hargreaves, Esq., of Broad Oak, Accrington. The amount sought to be recovered was 11. 9s. 10d., being rent for the years 1867 and 1868. Distress was made by Mr. Thomas Whittaker, bailiff, the auctioneer being Mr. B. Southwark, both of Burnley. No resistance was made to the officer, who was received with all civility, and told that though the amount demanded would not be paid, yet that he was at perfect liberty to "seize" anything to which his warrant and authority extended. The officer then proceeded to impound a quantity of bacon, which was sold on Tuesday, the 29th ult., there being pretty sharp competition amongst the buyers, the bacon fetching a price something more than its market value. The amount realised was 42. 1s. 1d., which, after paying the arrears of rent, 11. 9s. 10d., and the expenses, left a balance of 17s. 11d., which sum is now in possession of the auctioneer, the police-constable having declined to receive it, "on account of desiring not to be mixed up in the matter. The auctioneer, it is stated, made quite a "radical speech" on the occasion, depreciating the necessity of what in the present case was a severe and oppressive exercise of legal authority. A Burnley correspondent says, relative to this incident:—"The person upon whom the distress has been made is a gentleman of great local influence, and a distinguished member of the Society of Friends and a personal friend of the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Trade. His contributions to and support of local charities, and his uniform assistance to all poor persons of every denomination, have caused him to be respected for miles around. The abominable 'seizure' has caused no little sensation."

**MISSIONARY AGENCY IN CHINA.**—That the Chinese Government have no desire to hinder the spread of Christianity in their empire and no prejudice against the missionaries, must be inferred from the proclamation just issued at Pekin to warn the people of Soochow and other cities against listening to the inflammatory misrepresentations of the literati. The teachers of Christianity have not only a free right of entry and address, but any churches or chapels they may build are to be respected; and since "if natives become church-members they do so voluntarily and are not forced" they must be protected. No pressure has been put upon the Court at Pekin to obtain this proclamation; and the intelligence given in this month's *Missionary Chronicle* shows that redress for violence done to missionaries or their converts may be obtained by patience without the intervention of gunboats. The Rev. J. Stronach writes from Amoy that "after a year's unnecessary delay the Taoutai, or chief Mandarin, appointed a special commissioner or deputy for the redress of our grievances at the village of San-jo, whence our convert O-tau and his family had been expelled. We reached the village on the 25th of March—it is distant ten miles from the district city—and the object of our visit was known in the many villages scattered along our route. The head man of the village showed all due submission, and agreed at once to reinstate O-tau in possession of his houses and his thirteen acres of ground. O-tau might justly have laid claim to at least 300 dollars as compensation for the loss he and his sustained during their twelve months' banishment from their homes; but, for the sake of peace, he waived his claim, and contented himself with the restoration of his fields and houses. The head man came under obligation to keep him and all other converts from molestation on account of their religion, and guaranteed that no hindrance would be presented to the reopening of the chapel, and the holding of the regular services there."—*The English Independent*.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC CHILDREN IN MARYLEBONE.**—On Thursday, at the meeting of the Marylebone Vestry, Professor Marks, inquired the grounds upon which

the guardians had refused to comply with the order of the Poor Law Board to send certain children to Roman Catholic schools. Mr. Boulnois replied that the guardians allowed a Roman Catholic priest to visit the schools and instruct the Roman Catholic children, and the children attended the service of their Church; therefore the guardians considered that they had complied with the provisions of the Act of Parliament. Professor Marks said he was not an advocate of the Roman Catholics, but he wished to ascertain the position of the parish in a legal point of view. He well knew that the Roman Catholics always required to be dominant, and as the time would soon come when England would have to fight once more the great battle against them, his desire was that everything should be fair and just, so that they would be in a proper position to maintain their ground; but he did not think that fairness did exist in reference to the Roman Catholic children. For years the Jews had maintained their own poor, but in consequence of the persecution of the Jews in Russia and Poland such had been the influx into England that the Jews could no longer do as they had done, and were compelled to apply to the Poor Law Board for aid, and they were allowed for their pauper children the same amount as those children would cost at parochial schools. He thought it was but natural that the Roman Catholics should require the care of their children; but a guarantee should be obtained that the parish should not be put to more expense for the children than they cost in their own schools, and also that they would be placed in as good a position in life as they would have been had they remained with the guardians. Mr. Shaw strongly supported the guardians in the action they had taken, and trusted that a determined resistance would be made against the Poor Law Board. He maintained that it was the duty of the State to bring the children referred to up to the religion of the State, and he strongly condemned the conduct of the Government in the matter, and he contended that there had not been such an oppressive Government since the days of James II. He trusted that the guardians would remain firm in their opposition to the Poor Law Board. A long discussion ensued, nearly all the speakers advocating resistance to the Poor Law Board, and a resolution was passed unanimously requesting the board of guardians to furnish the Vestry with a return of any Jewish child that had been educated at the parochial schools, and whether any contribution had been asked for by the Jews for the support of any child.

## Religious and Denominational News.

### KENT CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The seventy-seventh annual assembly of this county association was held at Sheerness on the 6th and 7th of July. Between sixty and seventy delegates attended, and the Rev. J. Beazley, of Blackheath, presided over the meetings. The annual meeting of the Kent Union Society was held on the 6th, when the annual dividend, amounting to nearly 500/-, was apportioned among twenty-one annuitants, being aged and infirm ministers or ministers' widows. Gratuities amounting to 85/- were voted to ten necessitous applicants. The annual sermon was preached in Alma-road Congregational Church by the Rev. J. Beazley, who afterwards presided at the celebration of the Lord's Supper, in which observance many members of the Sheerness churches united with the brethren. The meeting for business occupied the morning of the 7th, when the annual report was read by the Rev. J. Radford Thomson, M.A., and the financial statement was made by the Rev. A. Turner, the joint secretaries of the association. The changes which had occurred in the pastorates, and the new churches which had been built, were duly announced, and several ministers were received into the association. Grants of 20/- each were made towards the support of lay evangelists in the following places:—Dover, Ashford, Canterbury, Faversham, Newnham, Northfleet, and Five-oak-green. Towards the support of the ministry at New Brompton, Plumstead, Hythe, Broadstairs, and Cranbrook, grants were voted varying from 25/- to 50/-, and other cases were referred to the executive committee for assistance should the funds permit. A resolution was passed, recording the high appreciation of the character and usefulness of the Rev. B. H. Kluit, late pastor of the church at Gravesend, entertained by the association; Mr. Kluit having been called to his rest during the year of his chairmanship. The treasurer and secretaries were re-elected, and the executive committee appointed. The Rev. H. J. Bevis, of Ramsgate, was requested to act as chairman during the ensuing year, and the Rev. Dr. Parker to preach the annual sermon next July. A paper was read by the Rev. J. Radford Thomson, M.A., upon the debts burdening the churches, schools, and parsonages belonging to the Congregational body in Kent, which, it appeared, amounted to between 19,000/- and 20,000/-. Effort was advised for the reduction and extinction of these debts. The Rev. John Ross addressed the assembly upon the principles and methods of Christian liberality, and the Rev. F. S. Williams upon the connection between the Nottingham Congregational Institute and the county associations. In the evening the public meeting was held in Bethel Chapel, the Rev. J. Beazley in the chair. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. Radford Thomson, M.A., B. Waugh, F.G.S., H. G. Parrish, B.A., and W. H. Jefferie. The attendance at both the public services was large, and a devout and hallowed feeling was manifested. For the very kind hospitality of the friends at Sheerness the Revs. J. Samson and R.

Nurse, and their congregations, received the warm thanks of the association.

#### REGENT'S PARK COLLEGE.

The session of this college for the present year closed on Tuesday, the 6th inst., when a *soirée* was held. There was a large attendance of the subscribers and friends of the institution, including a goodly number of ministers. The assembly met at seven o'clock in the hall, Dr. Gladstone presiding. The Rev. Jesse Hobson, of Salter's Hall Chapel, Islington, read the Scriptures and prayed, after which Dr. Angus presented his statement as to the work done during the session of the college. He said the entire number of students resident during the session was forty-two—viz., twenty-four ministerial and eighteen lay students; the entire number attending classes was forty-eight—viz., twenty-seven ministerial and twenty-one lay. The classes were thus arranged:—English subjects, logic and mental philosophy, theology, and Greek Testament—by Dr. Angus; classics, German, patristic Greek, Hebrew, Chaldean, and Syriac—by Dr. Davies; mathematics, and natural philosophy—by Mr. Bridges; chemistry—by Dr. Mathieson; French—by M. Bony. Nine students have just gone up for matriculation, three are about to go up for their first B.A., and three more next October for their second B.A. Dr. Angus read the various reports of the examiners, which were very satisfactory, and also a list of books that had been presented to the library by various donors. He appealed for further aid in extending their library, and urged a yet more liberal support of the institution.

The Rev. S. H. Boott read the report of the sub-committee appointed to examine the students on elocution, which recommended that seven prizes be awarded, and he expressed his great satisfaction with the progress made by the students during the session in this department.

The Rev. C. M. Birrell then delivered a most impressive address to the students, which was characterised by much beauty and chasteness of expression, and devout sympathy with the work of his younger brethren. At its close, at the suggestion of Dr. Angus, prayer was offered up by the Revs. J. Foster, late of Plaistow, and D. Katterns, of Hackney, that the lessons of the address might be deeply impressed upon the memories and lives not only of those who were about to enter upon the Christian ministry, but also of those who had long been in it.

The prizes were then given to the students by the Chairman, who made a few observations upon the address to which the meeting had listened with so much interest, and on the motion of Dr. Underhill, seconded by the Rev. Jesse Hobson, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Birrell for his address and to the chairman for presiding on the occasion.

The Rev. S. B. Driver, of Manchester, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Congregational church, Hitchin, to become their pastor.

The Rev. Wm. Guest, late of Claremont Chapel, Pentonville, has accepted the invitation of the church at Gravesend to become their pastor.

The foundation-stone of the new Congregational church about to be erected at Brixton-road by the congregation of which the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., is pastor, will be laid this day (Wednesday) by J. Kemp Welch, Esq.

**AMERICAN METHODISTS AND LAY REPRESENTATION.**—The Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the most numerous religious bodies in the United States, is now voting upon the question of "lay representation." The question is, whether or not the laity shall send representatives to the "conferences." Thus far a very large majority is in favour of "lay representation," so that the principle may be regarded as carried.—*Philadelphia Letter.*

**SYALYPERA, GLAMORGANSHIRE.**—On Thursday, 1st inst., and Sunday, 4th inst., the new English Congregational church was opened, when sermons were preached by Dr. Rees and the Rev. W. Jones, of Swansea, Professor Morris, of Brecon, and Rev. Kilsby Jones, of Llanwyryd. The collections amounted to nearly 24*l.* The cost of the building, including gas and other internal fittings, will be say 1,200*l.* One half this amount is raised. The further amounts promised will leave a debt of about 500*l.* The building has progressed remarkably well, as the foundation stone was only laid 10th September last. Many who have seen the building, and fully competent to form an opinion, believe it to be the inauguration of a new style, viz., Gothic, of architecture, for such buildings in South Wales, and it is thought that there does not exist a more neat, comfortable, and eligible building than this is in the Principality, especially when the comparatively small outlay is considered. There is accommodation for 438 persons. The architect is Mr. T. R. White, one of the committee. The building is the first erected and opened through the kind and very liberal offer of Mr. Morley to give 5,000*l.* to be divided among twenty-five English Congregational chapels, in South Wales, where they were much needed.

**ST. JAMES'S HALL.**—On Sunday afternoon the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., brought to a close the "special services for the people," which have been held for a long time past in St. James's Hall. He preached from the 15th chapter of St. Luke's Gospel—the parable of the lost sheep, which he illustrated by some events which he witnessed ten days ago on the moorlands of Cumberland. He said that on the previous Sunday he had advocated the claims of Mrs. Gladstone's Convalescent Home, and on that day he asked for aid on behalf of the National Orphan Home on Ham-common. To such institutions as these he held that all should render assist-

ance; that the clergy should not be the only persons to appeal for them. There was much Popery in the country, and they should avoid it as much as they could, but the worst Popery of all was to be found in the supposition that the clergy were to do all the work of the Church, and of charitable and benevolent institutions. Mr. Hall, in closing, announced that on that evening there would be at his own chapel—Surrey Chapel, in the Blackfriars-road—an administration of the Holy Communion—to which he invited Christians of any Church or no Church; for there were (he added) many Christians who were not attached to any particular Church. The national anthem was played on the large organ as the congregation dispersed for the last time.

**WEST DULWICH.**—We recently announced the return to West Dulwich of the Rev. Walter Hardie, B.A., after an absence of three months in Italy and the East, whither he had gone for the recovery of his health. Mr. Hardie met with an affectionate welcome from his church and his congregation—and it was hoped that strength had been gained for the permanent resumption of the work of the ministry. We regret to state that this anticipation has been disappointed, and that Mr. Hardie, conscious of physical inability to discharge the varied and important duties of his office, and guided by medical advice, reluctantly resigned at the last church-meeting a pastoral charge, which, though sustained for only two years, has been distinguished by the unity of the church, and by satisfactory increase in the congregation. The debt on the chapel has been liquidated, new schools and lecture-room erected, while prospect of great usefulness appeared to be opening to the encouragement of the pastor and his people. It was therefore with much grief that the church accepted the resignation of Mr. Hardie, compelled by the urgent reasons assigned. A resolution was immediately adopted expressive of sympathy with the pastor and his family, and the fervent hope that residence in the south of France, and lengthened cessation from preaching, may conduce to complete restoration of health. We understand that Mr. Hardie will probably remain at West Dulwich in the partial discharge of ministerial duty until September next.—*From a Correspondent.*

**THE MISSIONS OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**—A meeting of leading supporters of this society was held in London last month to consider "the resolutions recently adopted by the committee of the Baptist Missionary Society, and the principle of action in the future conduct of the mission, as indicated in the speech of Dr. Landels at the last annual meeting." There were present Sir Robert Lush, A. Angus Croll, J. P. Bacon, J. E. Tresidder, W. Knight, E. Rawlings, James Benham, R. Waters, A. B. Goodall, W. R. Rickett, H. H. Heath, J. Herbert Tritton, S. R. Pattison, W. Olney, W. Stiff, A. P. Hepburn, J. Harvey, J. Coxeter, J. Rains, Dr. Underhill, the Revs. Dr. Brock, Dr. Landels, F. Tucker, W. G. Lewis, Dr. Angus, W. Brock, jun. Mr. James Benham was unanimously called to the chair. Mr. Harvey introduced the subject proposed for consideration, after which a prolonged discussion took place, and the following resolutions were passed:

1. That in the judgment of this meeting it is in the highest degree desirable that young men sent out as missionaries, should go forth unmarried, and should remain so for two years at least, until their suitability for the climate and the work have been fairly proved.

2. That this meeting have considered the resolutions which the committee of the Baptist Missionary Society have adopted for their future guidance in carrying on the work of evangelising heathen nations, hereby expresses its sympathy and concurrence with the principles therein laid down, and further declares its conviction that in order to the wide propagation of the Gospel in districts and regions yet unvisited by the messengers of Christ, it is desirable that an agency should be instituted, less costly than the present, not having a permanent residence, and that shall associate as much as possible with the people whose salvation it seeks to accomplish.

3. That this meeting, deeply impressed with the conviction that such a class of agency implies and can only spring from a high degree of zeal and devotedness in our churches, hereby recommends that the friends of the mission should unite in earnest prayer to Almighty God that by an enlarged outpouring of the Holy Spirit He may enable the churches to realise and rightly to fulfil the sacred mission He has entrusted to them of publishing the Gospel among the heathen nations.

4. That should the committee of the Baptist Missionary Society carry out the principles laid down in the foregoing resolutions, the friends present are prepared individually, and by influencing the churches with which they are connected, to do their best to augment the funds of the society to the extent required for this enterprise.

It was decided that a copy of these resolutions should be forwarded to the Baptist Missionary Society, and that the question of another meeting, to which friends from the country should be invited, be left open.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—On Tuesday, July 6th, a tea-meeting of the members and friends of the Baptist Church, Derby-road, was held in the Exchange Hall, for the purpose of making several presentations to the Rev. J. Martin, B.A., as a proof of the esteem in which he is held by those connected with the place of worship over which he has so long and ably presided. The articles presented consisted of a costly and magnificent tea service, a splendid timepiece, a gold watch and chain, a purse of gold, a useful stationery box, and a very handsome album, amounting altogether to nearly 250*l.* These were accompanied by three addressees. The gifts were placed on a dais at the upper end of the room, and their tasteful arrangement produced a charming effect. Fully 400 sat down to tea, including several members of the corporation, and about ten ministers

of the town and neighbourhood. The mayor presided and after a devotional service, in which the Revs. W. S. Chapman and C. Clemence took part, the chairman addressed the meeting and said that they would all lose in Mr. Martin (who has accepted a charge in Melbourne, Victoria) a thorough, a sincere, and a Christian friend. The first presentation was made by Alderman Vickers, who referred to Mr. Martin's eleven years of successful labour amongst them. During that period they had erected new school premises for the convenience of carrying on the religious instruction of the young and in addition to that they had been enabled by the good hand of God to defray a very heavy debt which rested upon them at the time of Mr. Martin's appointment. In other Christian works which had been carried on, the character of the church had been very much sustained by the kind and gentle feelings the pastor had infused into the minds of the people, who by his influence and teaching had been enabled to work most harmoniously and successfully together. The following is the inscription on the front of the timepiece:

Presented (together with a purse containing 170*l.*) to the Rev. James Martin, B.A., on his removal to Melbourne, Australia, by the members of the Baptist Church and congregation, Derby-road, Nottingham, as a tribute of their affectionate esteem, and in grateful remembrance of his labours amongst them during ten years as their pastor.

Nottingham, July 6th, 1869.

Mr. H. Askwell then presented the tea-service and album to Mrs. Martin on behalf of the ladies, and Mr. Wheeler the Sunday-school memorial. Mr. Martin, in suitable terms, acknowledged the several presentations and the uniform kindness he had received while resident in Nottingham, and referred to the difficulty he had felt in accepting the invitation to Melbourne. His richest reward would be to learn in the future that all the churches of Christ in this town were thoroughly prospering, that the labours of the ministers were greatly blessed, and that those in their own church of Christ were one by one taking their proper place, and uniting with the church as they had united with Christ. If they did not again meet on earth, they would meet in that happy home above, to which, he trusted, they were all going. The rev. gentleman then resumed his seat. His address was delivered in a most impressive manner, affecting to tears many of those present. Several other speakers afterwards followed.

#### Correspondence.

##### THE APPROACHING REGISTRATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—It is to be hoped that the attention of the friends of religious equality will not be so wholly engrossed by the Irish Church Bill as that they will forget their duties in connection with the registration of voters, and more especially that next Tuesday, the 20th of July, is the last day for sending in county claims of freeholders, leaseholders, and 50*l.* occupiers.

Our opponents never forget the exhortation of their former leader, "Register! Register! Register!" and, instead of being dispirited by the results of the last election, they will probably patiently work at the Register for the next few years, in the hope that their former position may be thereby recovered.

Subjoined is some information of a practical character, and, in addition, forms of claims will be supplied on application to this office.

Your obedient servant,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, E.C., July 13.

**County Qualifications.**—The right to be registered as a county voter rests upon five kinds of qualification, viz.:—1. Freehold; 2. Copyhold; 3. Leasehold; 4. Occupation as tenant, at a rent of 50*l.* or upwards, under 2 Wm. 4, cap. 45, sect. 20; 5. Occupation as owner or tenant at a rateable value of 12*l.* or upwards, under 30 & 31 Vic., cap. 102, sect. 6.

**Twelve Pound Occupiers.**—The occupation as owner or tenant of lands or tenements at a rateable value of 12*l.*, who has been rated for the relief of the poor, and has on or before the 20th July paid all poor rates that have become payable up to the 5th of January last.

Joint occupiers, as owners or tenants, the aggregate rateable value of whose premises would, if divided amongst the several occupiers, so far as the rateable value is concerned, confer on each of them a vote, will be entitled to be registered, provided that not more than two persons, being such joint occupiers, shall be entitled to be registered in respect of such premises, unless they shall have derived the same by descent, bequest, or marriage, &c., or are partners.

Occupation of premises in immediate succession as owner or tenant, each set of premises being of the requisite rateable value, and the rates having been paid, will entitle the occupier to be registered, but both sets of premises must be set forth.

**Time of Possession previous to Registration.**—Freehold and copyhold property, if purchased, must have been conveyed, or a contract to purchase must have been signed, before the 31st of last January. In the case of a freehold reut-charge there must have been receipt of rent on or before that date.

Leaseholds, if purchased, must have been acquired on or before the 31st of July last year.

An occupation qualification must have been acquired by the 31st of last July. It need not be for the same premises, but may be of different premises, occupied in immediate succession, each at the required rent.

Those who acquire qualifications by descent, succession, or marriage settlement, require no length of possession.

## CONCURRENT ENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—I wish to express, through your columns, my disapproval of the scheme of concurrent endowment of the various religious denominations in Ireland, proposed by Lord Westbury, and shadowed forth by other peers. In the first place, if we were to sanction this insidious project, we should be guilty of a gross breach of faith to our tried and trusty allies, the British Voluntaries. We sought and obtained their aid on the faith of our strict adherence to the principle of impartial disendowment. Were we base enough to recede from that principle now, we should not only incur the deep disgrace attaching to our faithlessness, but we should lose the object in view. For a cry would be raised through the length and breadth of England and Scotland against any sort of Catholic endowment, whether in glebes or in manors or in cash—a cry that the Legislature could not afford to disregard. The proffer of two millions to the Catholic clergy is intended as a bribe to secure their acquiescence in a scheme that proposes to endow the disestablished Anglican clergy with an enormously disproportioned amount of that national Church property which they have so long and so dishonestly usurped. If we test this proposal by endowment principles, it will appear, even on those principles, to be a monstrous insult to the Irish Catholics, lay and clerical. Mr. Gladstone values the whole ecclesiastical property at sixteen millions. Of this large amount he intends—very unfairly, as I think—to send off the disestablished clergy with no less than nine millions. Lord Westbury's scheme would give them still more than that amount. His lordship's proposed division of the spoils leaves the lion's share to the clergy of the Anglican minority; whilst the clergy of the Catholic majority are to be kept quiet with the jackal's share. And this barefaced insult is intended, we are told, to attach the priesthood to the English Government! Mr. Gladstone's bill is extremely defective. By enabling incumbents to capitalise, it permanently gives more than one-half the Church property to the clergy of one-eighth of the people. In point of equity, such an apportionment is totally indefensible. But the bill, as it left the House of Commons, had the merit of breaking down the Orange ascendancy, and of leaving the next generation of parsons to the voluntary contributions of their flocks. Disestablishment would be worthless without disendowment; and the labour of our adversaries is to reduce disendowment to a minimum. Earl Russell is reported to place his scheme of "levelling up" on the ground that the Catholics supported the Union on a promise by Pitt that their clergy should be endowed. "Let us now" (such is the argument) "give the Catholics the value for their support of the Union which Pitt promised, but which has been hitherto withheld." The statement imputed to the noble earl is historically incorrect, and the inference he is alleged to have drawn is as pernicious as the statement is baseless. The Catholics, as a body, did not support the Union. They are free from the black guilt of promoting the destruction of the Irish Parliament. A handful of bishops and a few Catholic peers were cajoled or deceived into lending their support to Pitt's measure; but their baseness was not shared by the millions of their co-religionists. Next, the total or partial endowment of our clergy, or pecuniary or other donations to our Church, are not called for either by the Catholic hierarchy of Ireland or by their flocks. I heartily wish that English politicians who favour Ireland with their notice, would take the trouble to ascertain what the Irish people really desire, and abstain from thrusting nostrums down our throats which are positively loathsome to the national stomach. We don't want their endowments. We have done exceedingly well without endowments. Our one grand requirement is disendowment and secularisation of the revenues for uses of public benefit.

I am delighted to perceive that the Liberation Society have passed resolutions against the ill-omened scheme of "levelling up"—resolutions which I do not doubt the Liberal constituencies of the three Kingdoms will heartily endorse.

I am, &amp;c.,

Kilascan, July 5.

W. J. O'N. DAUNT.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY  
ON THE VOLUNTARY SYSTEM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—Hardly is it to be wondered at that his Grace of Canterbury should speak in contemptuous words of the Voluntary System. For be it remembered, he looks at it through a yearly income of 15,000*l.*, and two palatial abodes. Moreover his eyesight must be dimmed by the great rank and privileges he finds himself endowed with. Now being subject, in spite of his lawn sleeves, to human infirmities, he naturally thinks that what is so good for himself, must be likewise good for his fellow-men.

Most unbecoming was it, for the most reverent prelate to denounce the Voluntary System as a spurious form of religion. Happily the State, although it has done very much for him, is unable to make his Grace infallible. For sorry indeed would be the religious condition of the Anglo-Saxon race, if his utterances were always true. It is only a minority of the race even in its fatherland, that believe in the advantage of religion being in connection with the State; whilst in America

and the colonies such connection is abhorred. Let the Nonconformist console himself that whatever his Grace may say can do no harm to the Voluntary System. It may be otherwise with the prelates who make scornful remarks upon the system. He may find that he has by no means an easy task to reconcile such remarks with the Apostolic teaching of thinking no evil. He is supposed to be a representative of the Apostles, and as such, it ill becomes him to do anything which any of them have forbidden.

Yours faithfully,

A. B.

## THE CARDIFF CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR.—The meeting of ministerial and lay delegates lately held at Cardiff, as reported in your last number, to discuss the religious condition of that town, is a good omen. Not a few difficulties must have been overcome in persuading members of various Protestant denominations to lose sight of their separate "interests" for the time being, and join together in serious deliberation upon the moral and religious condition of that town. I do not observe that the Church clergy took any part in the meeting, though one might imagine the subject was important enough. But evidently great care was taken in obtaining the information which was submitted to the conference, and it is necessary such facts should be stated in their cumulative force if the consciences of professing Christians are to be reached.

Cardiff being a new town which has grown with enormous rapidity, is probably no criterion of the generality of our boroughs. Every one would fain hope that such statements as were made at the conference referred to, were somewhat exceptional. For it was shown that for a population of 54,000, there are as many as 336 houses licensed for the sale of intoxicating drinks, of which no less than 286 are places of known bad character. Of the latter some, it appears, are owned by persons holding a high position in society, and accustomed to attend places of worship! The town, too, does not lack churches and chapels. There is room enough and to spare for the non-church-going population, if the statement be correct that while there are some 25,250 sittings, more than 10,000, or two-fifths of the whole, are not used. This is a sad reflection upon the efficiency of the organised efforts of the churches and societies of Cardiff, and called forth a very proper resolution, inviting the Protestant congregations of the town to unite, and use their individual and collective exertions to bring to bear a larger amount of influence on the minds of the population, with a view to their evangelisation.

The Cardiff conference, if it does not yield all the fruits which its projectors may have hoped, is well adapted to quicken the zeal of members of all religious communions in the town. The example might be followed with great advantage in all our populous boroughs. When so terrible a moral pestilence is raging around us, it ought not to require much courage on the part of religious bodies to lay aside their differences, and take counsel together after the manner of the Cardiff Free Churches. If the Gospel fails to exercise any appreciable influence upon the masses of the population, the reasons of the failure ought to be traced to their source. And it can be done far more accurately and effectually by such local meetings than by more general conferences. Such steps would be far more likely to lead to genuine Christian union, and suppress mutual jealousies amongst the various denominations, as well as economising the resources of all, than meetings for the public exhibition of fraternal fellowship. I, therefore, venture to command the example of the Cardiff Nonconformists to the Dissenters of other towns, as a step in the right direction.

Yours faithfully,

A PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN.

## A BEGGING IMPOSTOR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR.—Permit me to caution your readers against a man calling himself the Rev. W. Evans, a Welsh minister. For more than twenty years he has been going through the country professedly collecting money for the removal of chapel debts. He was in this city in November, 1867, and was taken to the police-station, but as there was not conclusive evidence against him he was let go upon his giving up what he had collected here. I kept his collecting-book. In a day or two I received by letters full proof that he was an impostor. A friend at Tewkesbury, in which place he collected in the October previously, took out a warrant for his apprehension, but nothing more was heard of him till the latter end of April, 1868, when information was received that he was on his way to Bristol. The police were communicated with, and he was apprehended at Bristol, having upon him another book representing a chapel case in another place in Wales. He was taken to Tewkesbury, and was committed for trial at the sessions. Both at the hearing and at the trial he was confronted by the Rev. W. Evans, of Cefn Cymerau, Merionethshire, whom he had represented himself to be, and for the chapel at which place he professed to be collecting. He was found guilty, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in Gloucester Gaol.

As he is again at liberty, he will no doubt start afresh on his collecting tours, which appear to have been profitable to him. In the book I have he had collected about 70*l.* in seven months, and in the one found upon him at Bristol between 30*l.* and 40*l.* in three months. During twenty years, therefore, he must have collected a very large sum of money. His real name is Humphrey

Evans, and he has never been a minister, although he represents himself as one. He is about 5 feet 7 inches in height, stoutly built, with broad full face. He converses in English most fluently, but his accent is strongly Welsh. His age is about sixty. His imprisonment at Gloucester is not the first he has undergone. Should he call upon any of your readers, I trust they will at once hand him over to the police.

Your insertion of this as a caution against a clever, old, and thorough-going impostor, may save the pockets of some, and be the means of somewhat arresting the progress of the party himself.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,  
WM. COLLINGS, Baptist Minister.  
Gloucester, July 5, 1869.

## Foreign and Colonial.

## FRANCE.

## IMPERIAL MANIFESTO.

At Monday's sitting of the Legislative Body, M. Rouher, Minister of State, read the following message from the Emperor:—

By the declaration of the 28th ult. I announced that I should submit, at the ordinary session of the Chamber, the resolutions and plans which seemed most fitting to realise the wishes of the country. However, as the Legislative Body appears desirous to learn immediately what reforms have been decided upon, I think it right to anticipate its aspirations.

It is my firm intention to give to the powers of the Legislative Body that extension which is compatible with the fundamental bases of the Constitution.

I now lay before you by this message the decisions which have been taken at the Council.

The Senate will be convened as soon as possible to examine the following questions, viz.:—

1. The powers to be accorded to the Legislative Body, including the right of laying down the regulations relating to its proceedings and the right of electing its bureau.

2. The simplification of the mode of presenting and considering amendments.

3. To make it obligatory upon the Government to submit to the Legislative Body all modifications to the tariffs in international treaties.

4. The voting of the budget by chapter, in order to render the control of the Legislative Body more complete.

5. The suppression of the incompatibility hitherto existing between the position of deputy and the assumption of certain public functions, particularly those of Ministers.

6. The extension of the right of interpellation.

The Government will also deliberate upon questions relating to the position of the Senate and the more efficient solidarity which will be established between the Chamber and the Government, the faculty of exercising simultaneously the functions of Minister and deputy, the presence of all the Ministers in the Chambers, the discussion of affairs of State in the Council, the establishment of a real understanding with the majority elected by the country, and the creation of all those guarantees which we seek in our common solicitude.

I have already shown several times how much I am disposed to relinquish in the public interest certain of my prerogatives.

The modifications which I have decided to propose constitute the natural development of those which have successively been made in the institutions of the Empire. They must at the same time leave intact the prerogatives which the people has most explicitly confided to me, and which are the essential condition of power and of the preservation of order and society.

The message was favourably received, and M. Rouher concluded the reading of it amid cries of "Long live the Emperor!" MM. Martel, Bournat, Dofus, Beauchamp, Terme, and Peyrusse, all members of the majority, were elected Secretaries of the Chamber by a large preponderance of votes.

## RESIGNATION OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY.

Two Imperial decrees have since been published, the first convoking the Senate on the 2nd of August next for an extra session, and the second proroguing the session of the Legislative Body. The time for the re-assembling of the Legislative Body will be fixed subsequently. After the Council of State held at St. Cloud on Monday, and the message of the Emperor had been read to the members of the Legislative Body, the Ministers placed their resignations in the hands of His Majesty, by whom they were accepted. The Ministers will, however, continue to fulfil the duties of their respective offices until their successors shall be appointed.

*La Presse* says that M. Magne will succeed M. Rouher, and that M. Ollivier will not be in the new Cabinet.

On Monday evening, the members of the *tiers parti* held a meeting at the Grand Hotel. Nearly all who had signed the "interpellation" were present. A resolution was unanimously passed to the effect that under the present circumstances there was no necessity to press their interpellation.

The *Journal des Débats*, commenting on the reforms promised in the Emperor's Message of Monday, thinks it impossible to undervalue their meaning, and says it would be unjust not to be grateful for them.

Describing the appearance of the Chambers on Monday, the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—

M. Rouher was the first Minister to make his appearance, and a number of faithful deputies shook hands with him as he sat in his place. Four or five other Ministers then dropped in, and a group of adherents formed in front of their bench. M. Buffet, on entering the Chamber, walked over to the left, and entered into conversation with MM. Pelletan, Béthmont, and some other gentlemen of extremely Liberal views. M. Thiers

walked into the centre of the Chamber, leaning on the arm of M. du' Audellare, and the House being flooded with members, the President called upon honourable gentlemen to be seated. After a few formalities had been got through, M. Schneider announced the Minister of State, and M. Rouher ascended the tribune. There was hardly a deputy absent from his seat, the galleries were crowded to suffocation, and directly opposite the Minister was Prince Napoleon in the Emperor's box. The Duke of Persigny, M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and other notabilities were also present. In the midst of a dead silence M. Bouher proceeded to read the Emperor's letter to his faithful Commons, and from the knowledge that he is playing a losing game, or from some other feeling, the Minister was actually as nervous as a *débutant*. He appeared somewhat relieved when he got to the concessions agreed to in council yesterday evening at Saint Cloud, and, as he flaunted them one by one before the eyes of the Opposition, he glanced towards the Left, as much as to say, *These liberalities will out-maneuver you*. The Right cried, "Très bien!" two or three times, but the Left remained silent as doom. M. Thiers twirled a pen between his fingers, and kept his eyes steadily on the Minister, who so short a time ago had stated from the same place that the only business of the session would be to verify powers. M. Ernest Picard shrugged his shoulders and seemed inclined to interrupt, but he refrained. When the Minister had finished the letter the Right applauded, and two or three deputies ventured on a "Vive l'Empereur!" in favour of reforms which, had they been proposed last Parliament, would have been scouted by these pliable Arcadians. There was hardly any applause from the Left Centre benches, the Marquis de Talhouet and Messrs. Buffet and Segris remained motionless, and though the official account of the letter published a few minutes after it was read leads to the supposition that the Imperial document was received with enthusiasm, such was not the case. All the applause came from the Right, and it is the opinion of the Chamber that in consequence of the little sympathy evoked by the concessions M. Rouher's resignation would be accepted this evening.

About one-half of the elections have been declared valid. The report of M. Guilloulet's election gave rise to an animated discussion, during which M. Jules Ferry, one of the deputies of the Department of the Seine, strongly attacked the system of official candidatures. M. Eugène Pelletan characterised the 2nd of December as a crime, and was called to order by the President.

On Saturday the members who have been returned for more than one district announced for which they intended to sit. M. Gambetta chooses Marseilles; M. Jules Simon, Bordeaux; and M. Bancel, Lyons. M. Picard is likely to elect to sit for Montpellier.

A general meeting of the Freemasons of France was held on Friday. A majority of the *bureaux* had adopted a resolution to hold an extraordinary meeting in Paris on the 8th of December, as a reply to the Ecumenical Council, but the Grand Master, General Mellinet, did not allow the assembly to discuss the resolution, and he abruptly closed the sitting.

#### BELGIUM.

The Franco-Belgian Railway question is arranged, and the negotiations have resulted in what is practically a triumph for the smaller Power. The French Government, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has been obliged to withdraw its pretensions to dictate to the Belgian authorities how they shall conduct their own domestic affairs. The dispute, it will be remembered, originally arose from the interdict which the Belgian Government and Chambers placed upon the transfer of the Great Luxembourg Railway to the Eastern Company of France. Considering the part which railways now play in war-like operations, and the geographical circumstances of the Luxembourg line, it is not surprising that the Belgians should discover a possible menace to their neutrality in this transaction. By a recent decree all French railways are placed under the direct control of the Minister of War, and if the Eastern Company had been allowed to buy up the Luxembourg Railway, the result would have been to give the French War Office authority over an important branch of the internal communications of Belgium. In putting a veto on this bargain, the Belgian Parliament only availed itself of a discretionary power which is both claimed and exercised by the governing body of every other State in Europe, ourselves among the number. In consenting to enter into negotiations on the subject, the Belgian authorities steadfastly refused to discuss political considerations, or to open the question of the sale of any Belgian line to a French company. All, therefore, that the International Commission has accomplished, has been certain commonplace arrangements for through booking, which might have been settled any day in half an hour between the traffic managers of the respective companies without Governmental intervention of any kind.

#### SPAIN.

A Ministerial combination has been decided upon, in accordance with which Señor Ardomex will enter the Cabinet as Minister of Finance, Señor Zorilla as Minister of Justice, Señor Echegaray as Minister of Public Works, and Señor Becerra as Minister for the Colonies. The other members of the present Cabinet are to retain their portfolios. In one of the recent discussions, General Prim expressed regret that the Democratic party were separating themselves from the majority.

Advices from Cuba state that General Caballero de Rodas has issued a proclamation declaring that the insurgents are now only maintaining a guerrilla warfare.

#### AMERICA.

The anniversary of the Declaration of Independence was celebrated enthusiastically throughout the North, but much apathy is reported to have been manifested in the South.

The Virginia elections have resulted in a Democratic triumph. Mr. Walker had a majority of about 40,000 votes, and the Conservatives elected six, and the Radicals three Congressmen, one of the latter being a negro. The new Constitution was adopted, the disfranchising section being rejected. An unexpectedly large negro Conservative vote has been cast.

The Conservative Republican journals of the United States regard the result of the election in Virginia as a substantial endorsement of the President's course, and the *Tribune* remarks that the successful party uphold impartial suffrage and general principles which have been persistently rejected by the Democracy.

The absurd report put in circulation of an unsatisfactory interview having taken place between Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Motley, has been officially contradicted.

The Hon. John Ross has arrived at Washington from Canada to open negotiations for the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty.

The Fenian Colonel Warren has had an interview with the President, who has ordered an investigation to be instituted into several cases specified by him of imprisonment of Irish-Americans by the British authorities.

#### AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The Legislature of Victoria has embarked in a constitutional struggle with the Supreme Court of that colony. It appears that two members of the Assembly have been expelled by a vote of the House, and that two other persons have been imprisoned by order of the same body, for alleged complicity with corrupt practices. The Supreme Court ordered the release of the two prisoners on a technical ground, but in all probability the Legislature will appeal against this decision to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

The *Times* New Zealand letter is dated the 15th of May. The report of Te Kooti's death had reached Wellington; his body, it was said, had been taken out to sea and sunk. The notorious chief has, however, been killed by rumour so many times that it is very doubtful whether he is yet beyond the power of doing further mischief. The writer, with every desire to take a hopeful view, is not able to do so. "I think," he says, "it must be evident that this lull in the crisis through which we are passing is one that we cannot build any hope upon. It is idle to talk of the rebels having been 'driven,' 'defeated,' or 'dispirited.' The loss has been nearly all on our side, not theirs. It is folly to expect that the few defeats they have sustained will outweigh their successes."

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Harvard boat and crew have sailed for England.

The Ameer of Afghanistan, Shere Ali, is organising a police force and clothing his troops after the English fashion.

Father Gavazzi, in a letter to a friend in the North, says "that a crisis in Italy is approaching," and "that he is preparing for the great crusade."

The New Servian Constitution was promulgated on Sunday amid salvoes of artillery, and the Skuptachina separated, manifesting great enthusiasm.

A French satirical paper, the *Diable à Quatre*, published the following:—"War is civilisation [Châlons]; the Empire is peace [Bordeaux]; *s'ergo* the Empire is not civilisation, *q.e.d.*"

The committee of the Florence Chamber of Deputies appointed to inquire into a charge of venality against a member of the Chamber has unanimously come to the conclusion that the accusation is not proven.

Spain and Chili are at peace—that is to say, an armistice has been agreed to for an indefinite period, and hostilities are not to be resumed without two years' notice being given by the party wishing to fight.

The heat in India has been fearful. So many deaths from sunstroke had taken place on the East Indian Railway that the directors had ordered a supply of coffins to be kept at the various stations on the line!

Very hot weather has suddenly come upon the United States, the thermometer verging towards 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Numerous cases of sunstroke are reported. The heat causes frequent and most violent thunder-showers, deluging the country with rain, so that much damage is caused by freshets.

The *New York Tribune* says:—"A gentleman passing through a Massachusetts village the other day had the misfortune to be mistaken for the musical critic of the *Tribune*, and narrowly escaped lynching. The crowd in front of the tavern cried out, 'That's the long-legged fellow who ran down our jubilee!'"

**THE PAPAL INDEX.**—The last decree of the *Index* interdicts a work of Bishop Montecione de Traja, of Rio Janeiro, upon moral philosophy in theology, and enjoins the author to make submission. This work was published thirty years ago, and the author has been dead six years.

**CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.**—A despatch from Quebec, in the *New York* papers of the 26th ult., states that a paper called the *New Idea*, advocating the annexation of Canada to the United States, and published in Vermont, is circulating extensively in and about Quebec. It is printed partly in French and partly in English.

**TRIAL AND CONDEMNATION OF THE BISHOP OF LINZ.**—The trial of the Bishop of Linz terminated on Monday. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty on the charge of uttering subversive doctrines, and attempting to disturb public order, and the bishop was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The Public Prosecutor had asked that the sentence should be imprisonment for six months.

**"TOO MUCH OF ONE THING IS GOOD FOR NOTHING."**—The Melbourne correspondent of the *Standard* says:—"Last mail bewailed the long drought which slew thousands of sheep and oxen, and made many squatters glad to give away or destroy whole flocks. Since then there have been such heavy rains, that sheep and cattle, reduced by former starvation, have perished in the universal swamp, too weak to struggle to dry land. Squatting is at a discount, and station security almost unmarketable."

**ARREST FOR SELLING THE NEW TESTAMENT.**—At St. Henry, a place nine miles from Quebec, two French gentlemen have been arrested, at the instance of the parish priest, charged with selling copies of the New Testament. One was found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of six dollars and costs. "Influential gentlemen," the despatch adds, "are determined to have the matter fully investigated, and legal measures taken against all concerned in the extraordinary proceeding."

**MORE OUTRAGES ON THE JEWS IN THE PRINCIPALITIES.**—The outrages on the Jews have been renewed in the Danubian Principalities. Baron Rothschild has communicated to the English ambassador in Vienna the following:—"Our wives and our children are ill-treated by the soldiers of the prefect. Many of our co-religionists are drowned, and our hair is shaved off in a manner to disgrace us, and we are subjected to every sort of torture and violence by the agents of the Government. We are most rigorously questioned and persecuted."

**THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD DIGGINGS.**—By the last mail we learn that nearly all the Australian gold-diggers had left Natal, returning to Australia. Herr Mauch, however, continued to believe the gold-fields would ultimately pay, provided proper machinery were used. Sir John Swinburn's party were crushing quartz at the rate of twenty tons per day, with a yield of four ounces of gold to the ton. More diamonds had been discovered. A letter in a Port Elizabeth paper states that the prospects of the Cape gold-fields are improving. A reef of quartz had been reached at a depth of sixteen feet, which two experienced Australian diggers declared to be as fine as they had ever seen.

**THE POPE AGAIN REBUKING EXTRAVAGANT DRESSING.**—Some Roman Catholic ladies in Rome, of high position, wished to present to the Pope, in memory of Mentana, a splendid picture of the battle of Lepanto, by M. Lafon. An audience was granted them for this purpose. Unfortunately, however, they forgot, or did not heed, the well-known views of the Holy Father on the subject of ladies' dress, and appeared before him in the most gorgeous costume. The consequence was, that, forgetting his usual affability, the Pope received the address of the ladies with the utmost coldness, and preached them a severe sermon on the folly and wickedness of their style of dress.

**THE SLAVE-TRADE IN THE SOUTH SEAS.**—It would appear that now, when the exertions of the Imperial Government and the other European Powers, together with the decrease of the demand, have almost terminated the African slave-trade, a new traffic of a similar character is growing up in the South Seas, which demands similar measures for its suppression. Our Sydney telegram notifies the capture, by her Majesty's steamship Rosario, of the Daphne schooner, of Melbourne, for offending against the Act prohibiting the shipping of slaves. When captured the Daphne had 100 Kanaka natives on board. The commander of the Rosario reports that he learns that a slave-trade, in its very worst form, exists among the South Sea Islands. A prize crew was put on board the schooner with orders to take her to Sydney. — *Melbourne Argus*, of May 22.

**THE FIRST ASCENT OF MONT BLANC** for the year has just been effected. The *Mont Blanc Journal* gives the particulars. The party left Chamounix at six in the morning of June 28. It was composed of Joseph Nicolet, of Lyons; Mr. Palmer Gannon, an Englishman; Simon Méderic, guide, and three porters. Having reached the Grands Mulets at four in the afternoon, they started again at half-past one on the following morning, and arrived at the Grand Plateau at a quarter-past seven. The way by the Corridor was found to be impracticable, owing to the quantity of snow; so the travellers were obliged to strike off to the right under the Dome du Gouté, and effect a passage by cutting about 800 steps in the ice, here frightfully steep, in order to gain the crest of the smaller and larger hump of the Dromedary. On two occasions the adventurers were forced to retrace their steps, owing to the violence of the wind, which threatened to precipitate the whole party into the abyss. At last, after terrible efforts, and with snow up to their waists, they reached the summit of Mont Blanc at 11:44 a.m. Here Mr. Palmer Gannon was seized with a fainting fit, caused by the intensity of the cold, and had to be subjected to friction with snow impregnated with rum. The return to the Grands Mulets was effected by a descent down Les Bosses—a very dangerous passage, and not yet attempted by any ascending party. At last, however, the party arrived safely at Chamounix at eight in the evening, and were greeted with a warm welcome from the numerous visitors.

**SUICIDE OF A FAVOURITE OF FORTUNE.**—A letter from St. Petersburg announces that Komissarow, who in 1866 saved the life of the Emperor Alexander, by turning aside the arm of an assassin, has hanged himself in his hotel, at the age of thirty-five. A mere journeyman hatter, he owed to the chance which placed him in the path of the Czar his elevation, at one stroke, to the highest pinnacle of fortune. His plebeian name was replaced by that of Kostromski; the Emperor's munificence gave him a landed estate. He was named colonel of a regiment of the Guard, and the Emperor authorised the opening for him of a national subscription, which produced nearly 2,000,000f. In spite of this abundance of honour and riches he has committed suicide. The abuse of spirituous liquors has been considered the cause of his lamentable end.

#### THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Mr. Thomas Magee, writing to the *Times* from San Francisco, says:—"Having made the journey myself across the continent from New York to this city, I can assure those who purpose making it that there is no strain at all in it. The journey is a delightful one, even for ladies, and the weakest invalid would be strengthened by it. There is a constant succession of novelties. Starting from New York by the route I travelled (the Pennsylvania Central), the traveller is taken through Trenton and its vicinity in New Jersey—made historic by the revolutionary war,—through Philadelphia, the great commercial mart, and Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania, over the beautiful Alleghany Mountains, and through the busy iron and coal regions of Pennsylvania. A glimpse is given of Pittsburgh, the Manchester of America, in soot, smoke, dirt, and immense shops sacred to Vulcan. The railroad, now changed to the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, and Chicago line, takes the stranger through one of the most delightful and beautiful countries, in the State of Ohio, ever beheld by human eyes. Winding rivers, verdure-carpeted hills covered with fat cattle, tree-clad mountains, snug farmhouses, and air having a clearness and balminess never felt in England, all make a picture such as England's pastoral poets would delight to render in immortal verse. Chicago, 910 miles from New York, is reached after forty-three hours' travel. Chicago is the representative inland city of America in the marvellous rapidity of its growth, in its daring enterprise, in its varied railroad connections, and in all that goes to make up a live Yankee go-ahead city; a prairie land but lately, now reclaimed to civilisation and cultivation. The distance from Chicago to the Missouri river and Omaha, the initial point of the Pacific Railroad, is 480 miles, and the cars of the Chicago and North-Western Railroad make the trip in twenty-two hours, conveying passengers through the great rich and deep pastures of Illinois and Iowa—the granaries of the world, as Americans delight to call them. These lands, when first their virgin freshness was broken by the plough, yielded fifty to sixty bushels of wheat to the acre. The Omaha and the Union Pacific Railroad are reached after a passage across the muddy and tortuous Missouri river, and now the great plains are reached, called the great American desert—the home of the wild buffalo, and of the wilder but rapidly disappearing Indian. There is a great sameness about the journey now, but the dryness and exhilarating qualities of the air, the beauty and variety of the cloud effects, compensate the traveller for this sameness. The air of the plains has a marvellous effect upon the animal spirits, which it raises to a high pitch. The stations along the line, with their sunken and loop-holed round houses for protection against former Indian attacks, are most interesting and novel, as indeed is everything which is seen. The Westerner is seen here in all the glory of abundant elbow-room, and, at the summit of physical enjoyment, here, if anywhere, he feels that he could carry out his traditional boast of "whipping all creation" with ease and dispatch. At Laramie, 563 miles from Omaha, the Rocky Mountains proper are reached. The railroad company selected a line through that route which offered easy grades, and the tourist will be rather disappointed at not seeing such mountains as the Alps in Colorado. Such mountains he can behold, however, further south, but not near the railroad line; and yet the scene from Sherman, the point of greatest altitude on the entire road—8,242 ft. above the level of the sea—is one which can never be forgotten: distance seems to be annihilated by the transparency and purity of the air; the entire chain of mountains, with their every ravine and projection, are cut so clearly and distinctly that objects which are twenty miles distant seem to be but five or six. Then there are great expanses of valleys stretching away between the main ranges, giving the idea of boundless distance and of a boundless land. The "watershed" of the continent, at Bridge's Pass, is reached in two days and a half from Omaha, and now all water runs Pacificwards. The journey through Weber and Echo Canons, or Passes, is one of the most weird and frightful possible. The line winds along the side of deep chasms, over roaring torrents, under overhanging mountains, round towering cliffs, past wonders of nature in her wildest moods, with beauties of mountain scenery unsurpassed probably anywhere. Then comes the great valley of Utah, with its wonders of Mormon tillage and irrigation. The wilderness does indeed blossom as the rose, and only man is vile here. The Great Salt Lake shines like a huge mirror in a setting of lofty mountains. The evidences of industry

abound on all sides. At Promontory Mountain we reach the junction of the two lines which constitute the through Pacific Railroad from Omaha to San Francisco. The cars of the Central Pacific road are now taken: this company controls the Western or Pacific, and by far the most valuable, half of the trans-continental line. And now, through Utah and Nevada, we have alternate stretches of circular plains and mountains of rounded forms; we pass the river Humboldt, known as the river of death to early immigrants to California; and, finally, the Sierra Nevada Mountains are reached. They are truly grand and precipitous. Magnificent crests, eternal snow, beautiful lakes, silvery waterfalls—all, in fact, mountains can exhibit that is lofty, beautiful, and imposing. Now, when the trip is drawing to a close, its greatest beauties, and by far its greatest difficulties, are seen on the road. The summit of the Sierra is crossed at an altitude of 7,042 ft., and this altitude is attained in a distance of 112 miles locomotive climbing, and the highest engineering science was therefore necessary at this place. The journey to the ocean is now rapidly downward—so rapid, indeed, where there is a descent of 116 ft. to the mile, that steam is altogether shut off and the breaks partially applied. In 6½ days from New York the traveller westward is landed at St. Francisco; and in a short time, when close connections and some improvements are made, the journey may be made in less than six days. The distance is only 3,181 miles, not 3,305, as stated by the *Economist*. And now about the "longer strain than the human constitution can stand," which the *Economist* declares the journey to be. There is not a spot in the whole trip in which there is not something new to be seen—something startling, something beautiful. Something grand, and to be seen nowhere else, is constantly attracting our attention, keeping the mind engaged and making the time pass pleasantly. The sleeping car arrangements are now in perfect order, and I can testify that the soundest sleep can be enjoyed in them. Everything connected with the beds is of the most luxurious nature. In addition to the sleeping cars, eating or hotel cars are now provided."

#### THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

The Essex farmers have for the most part secured a heavy hay crop in excellent condition. The wheats have come into ear irregularly in Essex, but they have improved during the last few days. It is believed, however, that the Essex harvest for 1869 will be below that of last year. The cereal crops have improved in appearance about Brigg, Lincolnshire, during the last few days; the hay harvest has been nearly completed, and with good results. The crops about Caistor, Lincolnshire, are looking pretty well; the harvest will probably commence, however, a month later than usual. Several acres of barley, both in the eastern and western parts of Cornwall, were cut during the past week. The hay-fields are being rapidly cleared; as a rule, the crop is very good. The *Leeds Mercury* of yesterday publishes the reports of correspondents in different parts of the country, as to the present condition and prospects of the crops. Most of them speak of the injurious effects of the continuance of windy and cold weather during the last two months, but the warmth and sunshine of the last week have done something to counteract the gloomy forebodings which in many quarters were entertained. Last year the harvest was exceptionally early, and this year the ingathering will not be completed until three weeks or a month later than in 1868. The estimates of the probable results are very various, and what can be said upon that subject at present is necessarily entirely a matter of conjecture.

#### THE COBDEN CLUB.

The annual dinner of the Cobden Club took place on Saturday evening at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. The Duke of Argyll presided, and about 140 gentlemen sat down to dinner. Mr. J. S. Mill was present, and proposed the toast of "The Honorary Members and Guests," with which he connected the names of M. Chevalier, and Mr. George Walker, of Massachusetts, who both responded. Mr. Mill, speaking of the free-trade question in the United States, said he thought it was impossible for such a nation as America, which had made so many sacrifices for freedom, now to go backward in the course which she had proved herself to be so well able to maintain. Mr. Mill added that he believed that the principles of free trade were now well established in America, and that the time was not far distant when it would be impossible to sow dissension between that country and England. He thought that the principles advocated by Mr. Cobden had had a good effect in establishing the international good feeling that at present existed, and he had a hope that those principles would before long become so extended that serious disturbances between this country and her neighbours would become very rare indeed. M. Chevalier passed a glowing eulogium on Mr. Cobden and his free-trade principles, which gave liberty to industry. Mr. Cobden was also opposed to the militarism of nations which had of late unfortunately sprung into existence; and he (M. Chevalier) only regretted that opposition had had no very effective or satisfactory results up to the present. In a letter that he received from Mr. Cobden as far back as September, 1859, he remarked that every year showed a new means for human destruction,

and at the same rate the taxes on the people had increased. Ten years had elapsed since then, and no change for the better seemed to have set in. On the contrary, there had been a continual increase of armaments, and the result was that instead of 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 of soldiers on the continent, there were now 5,000,000 or 6,000,000. This, he thought, was a sad spectacle, and the worst of it was that it had its bad effects on other countries. He prized the Cobden Club because it endeavoured to substitute a better state of things, and he therefore felt much pleasure at being present at its annual festive gathering. He believed that the services of such a man as Mr. Cobden were as much needed now as ever, if not more so. M. Chevalier concluded by proposing, "The memory of Cobden, success to Free Trade, a good understanding between nations generally, and the progress of liberty and commerce in Europe and America." M. Arles Dufour responded in English for the hon. members and visitors. Mr. George Walker, of Massachusetts, spoke on behalf of America, and expressed his belief that the people of that country were fast coming round to an advocacy of the principles held by the late Mr. Cobden. Mr. T. B. Potter proposed "The Health of the Duke of Argyll," and, on behalf of the Club, thanked his Grace for presiding. It appears from a statement made by the Hon. G. Brodrick that the club now numbers 300 members, of whom 140 are members of Parliament and 48 are honorary members.

#### Postscript.

Wednesday, July 14th, 1869.

#### THE COUNTRY AND THE LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

BRADFORD.—Last evening an immense meeting, not fewer than 10,000, of the inhabitants of Bradford was held in the open air in Peckover-walk, in that town, for the purpose of expressing their opinion upon the Lords' amendments to the Irish Church Bill. The meeting had been convened by the mayor, in compliance with a requisition, and in his temporary and unavoidable absence the deputy-mayor, Mr. Alderman Scott, took the chair. Mr. Alderman Law, late mayor, moved the following resolution:—

That, believing that the Irish Church Bill as passed by the House of Commons is in accordance with the resolutions adopted by that House during the past session, and in harmony with the opinion of the country, as expressed at the general election, this meeting deprecates the changes made in that measure by the House of Lords, as opposed to the purpose of its framers and the expressed will of the constituencies; and earnestly protests against all attempts to re-endow the disestablished Church, or to attain religious equality by means of re-endowment in any form.

Mr. Councillor Boothroyd and other gentlemen supported the resolution, which was carried all but unanimously amidst great enthusiasm. The following petition was also adopted and ordered to be sent to Mr. E. Miall, M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons:—

That your petitioners, believing that the Irish Church Bill of the present Government, which has been passed by your honourable House, is in accordance with the resolutions adopted by your honourable House during the past session, and in harmony with the opinion of the country so emphatically expressed at the last general election, deprecate the changes made in that measure by the House of Lords, as opposed to the purpose of its framers, and to the expressed will of the constituencies. And your petitioners would earnestly pray your honourable House to resist to the utmost all attempts to re-endow the disestablished Church, or to attain religious equality by means of re-endowment in any form.

EDINBURGH.—Last night a crowded meeting was held in Queen-street Hall in regard to the Irish Church Bill, the Lord Provost presiding. Resolutions were unanimously adopted condemning the amendments made by the House of Lords in the bill, and in particular the adoption of concurrent endowment. The opinion was expressed that Scotland was unanimously opposed to concurrent endowment, and that no Scotch member voting in favour of that scheme would have a chance of retaining his seat. It was agreed to petition the House of Commons to reject the Lords' amendments and restore the bill to its original form.

GLASGOW.—A meeting of parties interested in the passing of the Irish Church Bill, without the Lords' amendments, was held in Glasgow on Monday. A committee was appointed to take steps for calling together a large meeting of the citizens, and meanwhile it was resolved to petition the Government and the House of Commons to undo the "evil work of the Peers." It was also resolved, "that, in view of the frequent recurrence of similar obstructive action by the House of Lords, whereby the business of the country is seriously impeded from year to year, reformers should include in their programme of necessary measures an early reconstruction of the Upper House, so as to secure a second Chamber working in harmony with the nation."

DUNDEE.—An enthusiastic public meeting was held on Monday night at Dundee, to protest against concurrent endowment, the conferring of houses and glebes on the clergy of the Irish Church, and the postponement of the surplus. A resolution was passed, amid loud cheering, calling on the House of Commons to restore the bill to its original form.

LEEDS.—A great public meeting was held in the Leeds Cloth Hall-yard last night. It was convened

by the Mayor, who presided. Above 15,000 persons were present. Resolutions affirming that the Irish Church Bill was founded upon the principles of justice, and condemning the Lords' amendments, were passed almost unanimously. Mr. Baines, M.P., in the course of his speech, said that concurrent endowments could not be given by England, and would not be accepted, by Ireland. Alderman Carter, M.P., after alluding to next Thursday's consideration of the amendments in the House of Commons, and assuring the meeting that the Liberal party would resolutely put their foot upon the Lords' amendments, and would send the bill back again to the House of Lords in its integrity, warned the Upper House that if they then rejected it they must take the consequences. Resolutions strengthening the hands of the Government were unanimously approved.

**SHEFFIELD.**—Last evening a monster open-air meeting was held in the Paradise-square, Sheffield, for the purpose of supporting Mr. Gladstone and his Irish Church Bill. The Mayor, Mr. T. Moore, presided. The first resolution was moved by Mr. T. Dunn, J.P., seconded by the Rev. D. Loxton (Independent), and was supported by the two borough members, Mr. Hadfield and Mr. Mundella. It was to the following effect:—

That this meeting regards the establishment of religious equality in Ireland as alike necessary, just, and politic; that it hails with satisfaction the bill prepared by her Majesty's Government, and passed by the House of Commons to attain this object; it emphatically condemns the changes made therein by the House of Peers as subversive of the principles of the measure, and calculated to excite the just discontent of the great majority of the Irish people.

This resolution was carried amidst much enthusiasm. Mr. R. J. Gainsford moved, and Mr. R. Leader seconded, the adoption of a petition to the House of Commons, in which the petitioners prayed that the House would use all constitutional means to restore the Irish Church Bill to such a form "that the principle of religious equality may be so established as to assure the Irish people of the justice and good-will of the Parliament of the United Kingdom." The meeting was throughout of an almost unanimous character, and it was one of the largest assemblies that has been seen in Sheffield since the election. This being the first occasion that Mr. Mundella has addressed his constituents since he was elected, his friends gave him a very flattering reception.

**READING.**—A public meeting was held last evening in the Town Hall, Reading, to consider the amendments of the House of Lords to the bill of the Government for the disendowment and disestablishment of the Irish Church. Mr. J. Bligh Monck, of Coley Park, and chairman of the Liberal Electors' Association, was voted to the chair. Alderman Palmer moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting, representing the Liberal constituency of the borough of Reading, and cordially approving the bill for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church introduced into Parliament by her Majesty's Government, views with disapprobation the amendments introduced into it by the House of Lords, and expresses its emphatic protest against such amendments.

Alderman Harris seconded the resolution, and it was supported by the Rev. J. Aldis in an able speech. The resolution was carried by acclamation on being put to the vote. Mr. J. Boorne said the question which had been long before the country was one of simple justice to Ireland, and he called upon the meeting to support the next resolution, viz.:—

That this meeting expresses its confidence in her Majesty's Government that they will adhere unhesitatingly to the great principles of the bill so emphatically endorsed by the constituencies at the late general election, and calls upon the House of Commons to support them in procuring for the Irish people the precious boon of perfect religious equality, on the basis of impartial disendowment.

This resolution was seconded and supported by the Rev. J. F. Stevenson and W. Legg; and, like the first, was adopted amidst enthusiastic cheers.

**WALSALL.**—The Nonconformist ministers of Walsall met on the 1st. inst., Dr. Gordon in the chair, and passed a resolution against concurrent endowment.

**LEICESTER.**—A town's meeting was to be held last night, the mayor in the chair, at which the borough members were expected.

**OTHER MEETINGS.**—This evening there will be a meeting in support of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church Bill, and against the so-called amendments of the Lords and the policy of concurrent endowment, in St. James's Hall, under the auspices of the National Reform Union. Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., will preside, and will be supported by a formidable array of M.P.'s and prominent advocates of religious equality. A public meeting of working men has been called for to-morrow evening, at the Arundel Hall, Strand, to support the Irish Church Bill in its integrity, and for the purpose of arranging a great public demonstration of the working classes against the Lords' amendments. The chair is to be taken by Mr. Edmond Beales, and amongst the speakers will be Messrs. George Potter, Druitt, Broadhurst, Conolly, and other representative workmen. The great demonstration will probably take place early next week. The working men of Derby are preparing to hold a meeting on the subject. The members of the Brighton Liberal Registration Association meet this evening to urge the rejection of the Lords' amendments. Meetings on a large scale are also arranged for at Preston, Macclesfield, Barnstaple, Swansea, Dewsbury, Merthyr, Selkirk, and Huddersfield. The Perthshire Liberals are actively

moving, and meetings will be held in most of the towns this week.

#### YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords the Marquis TOWNSHEND moved the second reading of the Education of Children Bill, which was negative after Earl DE GREY and RIRON had said a few words as to the inexpediency of dealing with so important a question piecemeal. The Infant Life Preservation Bill, another measure introduced by the noble marquis, was withdrawn after a short discussion. The Bishops' Resignation Bill, which provides that on any bishop becoming physically incapable of duty, he might retire and receive 2,000/- a year of the income of his see for his life; and if he becomes mentally incapacitated, a commission of inquiry should be held, and on proof of his state a coadjutor bishop, with right of succession, might be appointed, was moved on its second reading by the Archbishop of CANTERBURY. It was much discussed before it was got through that stage. Some other bills were advanced, and the Charity Commissioners Bill, the object of which is to remove cumbersome formalities in the proceedings of the commission, was read a second time. Amongst the measures dealt with was the Assessed Rates Bill, which was read a second time.

At a morning sitting the Commons took the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill again in Committee, recommencing at Clause 90. To this Sir EDWARD BULLER moved an amendment, by which a surplus, that remains of the fund raised out of local rates for dealing with the cattle plague, would be applied to compensation for cattle slaughtered between February 20 and April 15, 1866, although the inspector who ordered the slaughter might have acted outside the district for which he had been appointed. This was much discussed, divided upon, and carried against the Government by ninety-seven to eighty. This was the only marked incident of the sitting, in the course of which this bill was got through Committee, and time enough remained to allow of finishing the same stage of the Valuation of Property (Metropolis) Bill.

At the evening sitting Mr. R. TORRENS called attention to a petition of certain inhabitants of Malta, praying for the amendment of anomalies in the constitution of the island, which was afterwards withdrawn. Colonel SYKES then called the attention of the House to our relations with China, in reference to the revision of the treaty of Tien-tsin, and moved for copies of papers with a view to prove that the Chinese Government was too weak to provide for the security of life and property in that empire. Mr. LINDLE, in seconding the motion, recommended her Majesty's Government to follow the example of the United States, by pursuing a policy of conciliation, prudence, and moderation. Sir CHAS. DILKE disapproved of the policy sketched by Colonel Sykes; and Mr. OTWAY equally objected to treating the Chinese as barbarians outside the pale of civilisation. He showed, moreover, that there was no necessity for arbitrary measures in our dealings with China, as our relations with the country were steadily improving. The motion was withdrawn, and a discussion ensued on the motion of Alderman LAWRENCE for the abolition of the house-tax. The motion was seconded by Mr. CRAWFORD. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed on the ground that the tax was for the most part proportioned to the means of occupiers, and that it was a tax on landlords rather than tenants. The motion was withdrawn. Earl GROSVENOR next attempted to gain the sympathies of the House for the farmers of Cheshire, who lost 38,000 head of cattle by the rinderpest, and received no compensation. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER resisted the appeal, and on a division the motion of the noble earl was defeated. Mr. BRUCE introduced the bill to protect the funds of trades unions. The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to three.

#### RESIGNATION OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY.

It is semi-officially declared that the temporary adjournment of the Legislative Body is necessitated by the reconstruction of the Ministry, and the preparation of the Senatus Consultum which is the consequence of the Imperial message. As it is not known what time the Senate will take to discuss and vote the Senatus Consultum, it is impossible to indicate at what period the Legislative Body will reassemble.

The retirement of M. Rouher is absolutely definitive. He has gone to Sercey. It is stated that the Marquis de Lavalette, Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Baroche, Minister of Public Worship, and M. Greasier, Minister of Public Works, will also leave the Ministry. The Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne will probably succeed M. de Lavalette, the latter taking his post at the Court of St. James's. M. Ollivier is said to have refused any portfolio. M. Magne will retain the Ministry of Finance, M. Forcade de la Roquette the Ministry of the Interior, Admiral Rigault de Genouilly the Ministry of Marine, and Marshal Niel the Ministry of War.

Among the persons put forward as likely to figure in the new Ministry are MM. Segris, Louvet, Chevandier de Valdome, and Drouyn de Lhuys, and the Marquis de Talhouët.

The *France* says the Emperor has offered M. Rouher the Presidency of the Senate.

In yesterday's sitting of the Legislative Body on the reading of the report of the previous day's proceedings, M. Jules Favre protested against the contradiction between the Imperial message and the decree proroguing the Chamber. He said, "The decree itself is an impropriety." This statement called forth loud protestations and cries of "Order!"

The President hereupon called M. Jules Favre to order. The latter continued, however, and was cheered by members of the Left; but the noise prevented him from being heard. The President again called him to order, and said: "I am astonished that on the morrow of a great liberal act a protest should be raised not only contrary to the regulations of the House, but contrary to the sentiments of the country." (Cheers.)

**THE UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.**—We understand that Earl Russell and Lord Taunton have charge of the University Tests Abolition Bill in the House of Lords. The second reading is to be moved on Monday next.

**WHAT EARL STANHOPE'S AMENDMENT INVOLVES.**—If the system of indiscriminate endowment, or coordinate grants, is to be adopted in Ireland, it is impossible to stop with Lord Stanhope's clauses.

The Roman Catholic Church must receive aid in proportion to its numbers; and all the Churches of Ireland must be brought within the plan. For this purpose, grants from the Consolidated Fund far exceeding the ecclesiastical revenues of Ireland would be necessary. These revenues are, indeed, quite insufficient for the purposes to which the amendments of the Lords assign them. A few figures, on the accuracy of which the strictest reliance may be placed, will make this matter clear. The total market value of Church property, deducting the adventitious value given to it by the use of the public credit, and including the churches and glebe-houses, may be set down at 15,000,000/. Of this sum the bill, in the shape in which it quitted the House of Commons, left with the Church and its members 10,000,000/, or two-thirds of the whole, about the sum which Mr. Gladstone estimated in his speeches last year. The amendments of the Lords up to Monday evening had added 3,000,000/. To this amount Lord Stanhope's amendment would give to the Established Church at least 500,000/- more. The bill, therefore, in the shape in which it has left the Lords, hands over to the disendowed Church or its members the sum of thirteen millions and a half, or nine-tenths of the property it possessed when endowed. The surplus for other than Anglican purposes is thus reduced to 1,500,000/. From this, however, has to be deducted the charge placed upon the fund by the concurrent votes of both Houses in compensation for the Maynooth Grant and the *Regium Donum*, or a sum of 1,100,000/. There remains a surplus of 400,000/, out of which to provide glebes and glebe-houses for the Roman Catholic and Protestant clergy, which at the lowest estimate could not cost less than four times that sum. In other words, the Lords' amendments leave a deficit of 1,200,000/. The blind recklessness with which they have been framed is therefore evident, and invalidates in no ordinary degree their title to serious consideration.—*Daily News.*

The foundation stone of the new London Orphan Asylum at Watford was laid yesterday by the Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by the Princess. There was a very numerous company, and their Royal Highnesses met with a very enthusiastic reception. A luncheon, at which the Prince and Princess were present, followed the ceremony. The day's subscription amounted to 1,388/-.

At Wimbledon yesterday, Angus Cameron, of the 6th Inverness Volunteers, won the Queen's Prize with a total score of 71. The Public Schools competition for the Ashburton Challenge Shield and the Spencer Cup began yesterday. The 150 Belgians who have arrived in London were expected in camp in the afternoon. It is announced that the Princess Christian will distribute the prizes on Saturday next. A flying column of regular troops of all arms, about 3,000 strong, will march from Aldershot to take part in the review.

#### MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The receipts of wheat from Essex and Kent were again very moderate. The attendance was limited, and business progressed slowly. Nevertheless, firmness was still the feature of the trade, and prices were well maintained. With foreign wheat the market was fairly supplied. All descriptions were firmly held with a moderate inquiry. The market was moderately supplied with barley. The demand was quiet, but prices were well maintained. Malt was inactive, but not lower. There was a good supply of oats, chiefly foreign. The inquiry was heavy, at drooping prices. Beans were quiet, at about late prices. Peas sold quietly, on former terms. For flour the trade was firm, at full currencies.

#### ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

Wheat. Barley. Malt. Oats. Flour.

English & Scotch 200 — 510 — —

Irish ..... — — — —

Foreign ..... 5,280 3,600 — 22,890 1,700 aks.

#### COMPARATIVE QUANTITIES AND PRICES OF GRAIN.

For the week ended July 10. For the corresponding week last year.

Qrs. Av. s. d. Qrs. Av. s. d.

Wheat .. 39,683 .. 48 11 Wheat .. 26,532 .. 66 7

Barley .. 247 .. 30 6 Barley .. 280 .. 37 4

Oats .. 993 .. 27 0 Oats .. 1,514 .. 29 8

**THE FRENCH MILLIONAIRE.**—The following is the last story discovered or invented in regard to the late Baron Rothschild:—It appears that while travelling upon the Northern Railroad, of which line he was one of the directors, they were obliged to remain at a certain station longer than usual, in order that the king of bankers could finish his breakfast, which vexed the conductor, and upon arrival in Paris he sent in his official report thus:—"At the station of X—lost twenty minutes waiting for the god of the epoch." This report came by course of routine to the hands of the director, who much enjoyed the conductor's wit.

## THE LORDS' AMENDMENTS OF THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

At a MEETING of the COMMITTEE of the DOVER LIBERAL ASSOCIATION, held the 8th of July, it was resolved that the following Petition be presented to both Houses of Parliament:—

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

May it please your Lordships,

The humble petition of the Liberal Association of Dover, in the County of Kent, sheweth,

That your petitioners view with regret the Amendments recently made by your Lordships' honourable House to the Bill passed by the House of Commons during the present Session for disestablishing and disendowing the Church of Ireland, believing that they are in many instances contrary to the primary principle of the Bill and calculated to set aside the purpose for which the Bill was introduced into Parliament, and that the mind of the nation has undergone no change in regard to the principles upon which the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church should be effected.

That your petitioners, having regard to the liberal as well as the equitable provision already made for the compensation of personal interests, and of the individual rights of property affected by the Bill, and especially to the large amount of public property which it will leave in the possession of the disestablished Church, are of opinion the proposed additional gifts of money and of land to the clergy and to the representative body of the Church are incompatible with one of the main purposes of the Bill as a measure of disendowment; and that it would be unjust to the great majority of the Irish people, and would furnish ground for demands for state endowments by other ecclesiastical bodies.

That your petitioners are further of opinion the Amendments which have in view the partial diversion to ecclesiastical uses of the surplus revenues devoted by the Bill to charitable purposes, and especially those which provide for the building of churches and chapels, for glebe houses, and for the granting of glebe lands for the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian bodies, are in direct antagonism to one of the fundamental principles of the Bill as well as to the deliberate decision of the people as expressed at the last general election of representatives.

That your petitioners are also of opinion, in order to secure the peace and well-being of Ireland, it is essential that the measure should be complete in itself, and that the appropriation of the surplus should be at once determined upon.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the measure introduced by her Majesty's Government, and sanctioned by unprecedented majorities of the Commons House of Parliament, should in all its essential provisions be carried into law, and that the date originally fixed for its completely taking effect, namely, the 1st of January, 1871, be not altered.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by order, and on behalf of the Association, this 8th day of July, 1869.

STERIKER FINNIS, Chairman.

## IRISH CHURCH BILL—“CONCURRENT ENDOWMENTS.”

At a PRELIMINARY MEETING, representing various classes of the community, held at Edinburgh on the 8th of July, the Rev. Sir HENRY MONCRIEFF, Bart., in the chair, it was unanimously resolved—

I. That this meeting protests in the strongest terms against “concurrent” or indiscriminate endowments of religion, as tending to create the persuasion that all religions are equally true, or rather equally false, and thus to undermine all religious belief together.

II. That this principle, when proposed to be adopted by the late Government, was so universally repudiated by the country, that, in the general election which ensued no candidate even thought of mooted it to the constituencies; that a new Ministry was called to office expressly pledged against the principle so emphatically condemned; and, therefore, that its adoption now in any degree or form by the Government, or by the newly-elected House of Commons, would be such a breach of faith with the country as would inflict incalculable injury on public morality.

III. That keeping in view, on the one hand, the almost unanimous support which the Government measure has received from Scotland, and, on the other, the entire unanimity with which the principle of indiscriminate endowments is there repudiated, this meeting protests that the people of Scotland will be justified in considering themselves as specially betrayed by the adoption, in any degree, of such a principle, or by any alteration of the Bill, either in the preamble or its enacting clauses, which might admit of any payments to religious bodies from the funds set free, other than in the form of equitable compensation, as provided by the Bill as it left the House of Commons; and that this meeting therefore calls on their fellow countrymen immediately and strenuously to support the Government in refusing to yield their consent to any such course as has been proposed in the House of Lords.

IV. That a memorial to the Premier, and a petition to the House of Commons, embodying these resolutions, be signed and forwarded by the chairman in name and by the appointment of this meeting.

## THE IRISH CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

At a MEETING of the DALKEITH COMMITTEE of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and COTROL, held the 8th of July, 1869, it was unanimously resolved—

That this Committee, having considered the amendments made on the Irish Church Bill in the House of Lords, is of opinion that these amendments are so contrary to the principle and design of the measure, and so opposed to the opinion of the country as emphatically expressed at the late general election, that the Liberal majority of the House of Commons cannot accept them without a dereliction of duty, and that her Majesty's Ministers ought not to submit to any material alterations in the measure as passed by the House of Commons.

## THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

At a PUBLIC MEETING held Yesterday (TUESDAY) evening, in the TOWN HALL, READING, the following resolutions were carried by acclamation:—

I. That this meeting, representing the Liberal constituency of the borough of Reading, and cordially approving the Bill for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church, introduced into Parliament by her Majesty's Government, views with disapprobation the amendments introduced into it by the House of Lords, and expresses its emphatic protest against such amendments.

II. That this meeting expresses its confidence in her Majesty's Government that they will adhere unhesitatingly to the great principles of the Bill so emphatically endorsed by the constituencies at the late general election, and calls upon the House of Commons to support them in procuring for the Irish people the precious boon of perfect religious equality, on the basis of impartial endowment.

J. B. MONCK, Chairman.

## CONCURRENT ENDOWMENT.

At a MEETING of NONCONFORMIST and WESLEYAN MINISTERS, held at WALSALL on the 1st July—the Rev. A. GORDON, LL.D. in the Chair—the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

I. Moved by the Rev. J. HAY (Wesleyan superintendent), and seconded by the Rev. W. LEE (Baptist minister):—That this meeting views with much concern the scheme of a concurrent endowment of the Episcopalian, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic religious bodies in Ireland, now being discussed in the House of Lords. That, while cherishing towards the Roman Catholics the most perfect good-will, and conceding to them full liberty in the free exercise of their religion, it cannot help regarding the religion they profess as opposed to social progress, religious liberty, and the highest interests of man; and would look, therefore, on the endowment in Ireland as a national calamity. That the endowment of Episcopalian, Presbyterians, and Roman Catholics in the shape of glebes, manors, or otherwise, would be in direct opposition to the leading principles of the Irish Church Bill, and a violation of religious equality, other bodies being precluded on principle from accepting endowments for purely religious purposes. That this meeting, therefore, pledges itself to use all legitimate means to defeat such a project.

II. Moved by the Rev. T. HOLLINS (Free Methodist Church minister), and seconded by the Rev. S. STOKES (Wesleyan minister):—That a copy of the above resolution be sent to the county and borough members, also to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., her Majesty's Prime Minister.

A. GORDON, Chairman.

## IRISH CHURCH BILL—LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

At a MEETING of the LYWINGTON LIBERAL ASSOCIATION, held July 8th, it was resolved as follows:—

I. That this meeting, having considered the various amendments to be proposed in the Committee on the Irish Church Bill in the House of Lords, is of opinion that, while the supporters of the Bill should be prepared to assent to such alterations as may tend to facilitate the transition of the Irish Church from the position of an establishment to that of a self-governed religious community, and to give to that church unfeathered liberty in regard to its future organisation and government, resistance should be offered to any retention on the part of its members of privileges which are inconsistent with the idea of disestablishment, as well as to provisions which imply the exercise in relation to the constitution and regulations of the Church, of legal authority not possessed by the members of existing voluntary bodies.

II. That having regard to the liberal, as well as the equitable provision already made for the compensation of “personal interests” and of the “individual rights of property” affected by the Bill, and especially to the large amount of public property which it will leave in the possession of the disestablished Church, the proposed additional gifts of money and of land to the clergy, and to the representative body of the Church, are incompatible with one of the main purposes of the Bill, as a measure of disendowment; would be unjust to the great majority of the Irish people; and would furnish ground for demands for State endowments by other ecclesiastical bodies.

III. That the amendments which have in view the partial diversion to ecclesiastical uses of the surplus revenues devoted by the Bill to charitable purposes and especially those which provide for the building of churches or chapels, and glebe-houses, and the granting of glebe lands for the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian bodies, are in direct antagonism to one of the fundamental principles of the Bill, as well as to the deliberate decision of the people, as expressed at the general election, and since affirmed by their representatives in the House of Commons.

IV. That this meeting, being fully satisfied that the mind of the nation has undergone no change in regard to the principles on which the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church should be effected, desires that the measure introduced by Her Majesty's Government, and sanctioned by unprecedented majorities in the Lower House of Parliament, should, as far as concerns all its essential provisions, pass into law.

## THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

At a PUBLIC MEETING held at MERTHYR TYDVL, July 12th, the following Resolutions were adopted:—

I. This meeting expresses its unqualified regret at the course pursued by a large majority of Peers in Committee on the Irish Church Bill, and is strongly of opinion that their amendments—re-endowing the Irish Church and leaving a surplus undisposed of with a view to future indiscriminate endowment—are entirely opposed to the wishes of the British people, as expressed at the last election, and in open defiance of these wishes, as truly interpreted by the large majorities which supported Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons.

II. This meeting, while regarding the Irish Church Bill introduced by her Majesty's Ministers as too lavish in the compensation proposed to be given to the clergy and laity of the Irish Church, and also to landed proprietors, is yet prepared to accept it as, on the whole, a fair compromise, but protests against a single step being taken towards any further compensation being granted either to them or any ecclesiastical body; and respectfully, but strongly, urges upon her Majesty's Government and the Liberal members of Parliament to stand firm to the previous decisions of the House of Commons, and to cancel the amendments of the Lords.

III. That the Chairman be requested to forward copies of the resolutions adopted to the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Trade, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Members for the Borough of Merthyr.

## THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

At a MEETING of the GENERAL COMMITTEE of the BIRMINGHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION, held July 12th, 1869, it was resolved:—

That this committee, representing the Liberals of Birmingham, desires to express its earnest hope that the House of Commons will support her Majesty's Ministers in securing in the Irish Church Bill the great principle of religious equality, violated by the amendments introduced by the House of Lords, and that this committee protest emphatically against re-endowment or concurrent endowment in any form.

## THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

At an OPEN-AIR MEETING held at PECKOVER-WALK, BRADFORD, on the 13th inst., the following resolutions were carried by an overwhelming majority:—

I. That believing that the Irish Church Bill as passed by the House of Commons is in accordance with the resolutions adopted by that House during the past Session, and in harmony with the opinion of the country, as expressed at the general election, this meeting deprecates the changes made in that measure by the House of Lords as opposed to the purpose of its framers, and the expressed will of the constituencies, and earnestly protests against all attempts to re-endow the disestablished Church, or to obtain religious equality by means of re-endowment in any form.

II. That a petition embodying the above resolution be sent to Mr. E. Miall, M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons.

## THE HOUSE OF LORDS AMENDMENTS.

At an OPEN-AIR MEETING, held in PARADISE-SQUARE SHEFFIELD, on TUESDAY, the 1st inst., it was resolved:—

That this meeting regards the establishment of religious equality in Ireland as alike necessary, just, and politic; that it fails with satisfaction the bill prepared by her Majesty's Government and passed by the House of Commons to attain this object; it emphatically condemns the changes made therein by the House of Peers as subversive of the principles of the measure, and calculated to excite the just discontent of the great majority of the Irish people.

T. MOORE, Chairman.

## THE LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

At a PUBLIC MEETING held at the BRITISH SCHOOL, AMLWCH, ANGLESEA, on the 12th July, C. B. DYER, Esq., in the Chair, it was unanimously resolved:—

That this meeting wishes to express its opinion that the amendments on the Irish Church Bill, as proposed by the House of Lords, do away entirely with the principle of the Bill as proposed by the House of Commons, and are diametrically opposed to the wishes of the country, as expressed at the last election. We therefore protest against its adoption in the amended form, and earnestly desire that the Irish Church Bill, introduced by the same principles as already passed by the House of Commons, may speedily become the law of the land.

## THE IRISH CHURCH BILL AND THE LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

At a PUBLIC MEETING of the inhabitants of DUNDEE, held at KINNAIRD HALL, on July 12, Provost YEAMAN in the chair,

Moved by the Rev. Mr. BRUCE, seconded by Mr. FRANK HENDERSON, and resolved—

I. That this meeting viewed with the greatest satisfaction the passing of the Irish Church Bill through the House of Commons, as a measure of justice towards the Irish people, is still of opinion that the measure as so passed would be productive of the most beneficial results in Ireland, and believes that the allegations made as to a change of public opinion on this subject throughout the country are altogether unfounded.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. COOK, seconded by Mr. H. B. FERGUSON, and resolved—

II. That this meeting is of opinion that any proposal to inaugurate a system of “concurrent endowment” either by the granting of glebes and glebe lands to the various religious bodies or otherwise, is opposed to the fundamental principle of the Bill, and ought to be strenuously resisted. And this meeting is further of opinion that her Majesty's Government ought, on the same grounds, uncompromisingly to refuse the amendment of the House of Lords which proposes to confer on the Church when disestablished the glebes and glebe lands of which she is at present in possession.

Moved by Mr. T. G. METHVEN, seconded by Mr. SUTHERLAND, and resolved—

III. That this meeting protests against the amendment passed by the House of Lords, whereby the appropriation of the surplus funds set free by the disendowment of the Irish Established Church is postponed indefinitely, believing that such an arrangement would unnecessarily delay the final settlement of this great question, and tend to perpetuate party feelings and jealousies.

Moved by the Rev. J. C. BAXTER, seconded by Baillie COX, and resolved—

IV. That a petition to the House of Commons be prepared, embodying these resolutions, and praying that the Bill may, in all its essential features, be restored to the state in which it originally passed the House of Commons; and that such petition be signed by the Chairman in name of the meeting, and forwarded to the members for the Bury for presentation, with a hope that they will personally support its prayer.

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## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1869.

## SUMMARY.

THE Emperor Napoleon has yielded to the necessities of his position, and yielded with grace. He has anticipated to a large extent the wishes of the 110 deputies who desired to interpellate the Government. On Monday M.

Rouher read an Imperial message to the Legislative Body, which virtually concedes the principle of responsible Government, though withholding it in name. The right of question is to be extended, more control allowed over the expenditure, all modifications of the tariff in international treaties are to be submitted for Legislative approval, the Chamber is to regulate

its own proceedings, the Senate will be invited "to suppress the incompatibility hitherto existing between the position of deputy and the assumption of certain public functions, particularly those of Ministers," and the Emperor engages to deliberate in council on all the affairs of the State.

Though on some points the letter is obscure, and silent in respect to other reforms, the reality of the Imperial concessions must be judged by the events which have followed close upon the announcement. M. Rouher (the arch-representative of personal government) and his colleagues have retired from office, and their resignation has been accepted. New men will be chosen to carry out the new reforms, which are to be laid before the Senate in an extra session next month. Meanwhile the Legislative Body is prorogued. Whatever reserves the Emperor may make, he has conceded to the French Parliament, "that extension of powers which is compatible with the cardinal bases of the Constitution." Personal government will soon be at an end, and Ministerial responsibility to the representatives of the people must sooner or later follow the concession of "the six points." Napoleon III. has given way with a promptitude which has already won popular favour, and which bids fair to reconcile France to the Imperial dynasty. A great reform has never before been initiated in that country under circumstances so unique. We trust that France may at length be included in the family of constitutional States, and may set an example to her neighbours in the wise use of her newly-acquired liberties.

The Irish Church Bill is again in the Commons, and to-morrow evening the Lords' amendments will be taken into consideration. The silence maintained throughout the country while the Upper House was recasting the Bill, according to its own notions, has been broken. Great meetings have already been held in Bradford, Leeds, Leicester, Sheffield, Edinburgh, and other large towns, to protest against their Lordships' amendments as subversive of the principle of the measure, and to urge the House of Commons to restore it to such a form that the principle of religious equality may be so established "as to assure the Irish people of the justice and goodwill of the Parliament of the United Kingdom." At the Edinburgh meeting it was confidently stated that any Scotch representative who voted in favour of concurrent endowment would certainly lose his seat; and at all the demonstrations held, there has been a firm determination to support the Government in restoring the Irish Church Bill to its original shape. Perhaps before another week has elapsed, the Peers will have submitted to them the alternative of accepting the Bill in the form proposed by Ministers, or an October Session to consider it anew, backed by increasing majorities of the Commons.

The Orange celebrations in Ulster, thanks to the forbearance of the Roman Catholic population, have gone off without bloodshed or disturbance. In several places the Party Processions Act was set at naught, but the Protestant excitement did not take a form which will help the moribund Irish Church. Mr. Johnston, the Orange leader, made a remarkable speech at Killyman, and his sentiments were applauded to the echo by the thousands of people assembled. The following is a specimen of the sentiments expressed by the hon. member for Belfast:—"We claim for the laity of the Churches," he said, "that they should have a share in the government of any disendowed and disestablished Church. We cannot consent to be trammelled by any connection with the State in the event of disestablishment. We must be perfectly free to manage our own affairs, and the Protestants of Ulster and of Ireland are quite competent, God being their guide, to form anew the Constitution, and rightly to govern the Protestant Church of these countries. . . . A free Church in Ireland will be more of a Protestant Church than it would be if tied neck and neck to the Church of England. There is another principle much in vogue with certain members of the aristocracy, namely, concurrent endowment. They say, 'Oh, you Church clergymen of Ireland, be satisfied, if you get your glebes, to give the same privilege to other churches out of the Irish Church funds.' We protest against concurrent endowment. We protest against levelling up. We protest against the endowment of the Church of Rome in any shape or form." Mr. Gladstone has evidently no reason to stand in fear of the Orange democracy of Belfast.

The Irish Church Bill is not the only difficulty that has arisen between the two Houses of Parliament. Last week the Solicitor-General's University Tests Abolition Bill passed its final stage in the Commons by a majority of 116 to 65. The measure now awaits their Lordships' decision,

which there is some reason to hope may be favourable. The Scotch Education Bill which was introduced in the Upper House has been read a second time in the Commons, and notice has been given on behalf of the Government that most of the clauses struck out by the Peers will be re-inserted.

The elaborate measure introduced by Mr. Hughes relative to Trades' Unions, was discussed at some length on Wednesday, and read a second time without opposition. It has since been withdrawn, with the understanding that Government will take up the subject next session; and the Home Secretary last night brought in a temporary Bill to protect the funds of trades unions from embezzlement and fraud.

#### THE HEREDITARY CHAMBER.

EARL RUSSELL's little Bill for creating a few life peers has been precipitately entombed. Postponed from time to time, the Peers at length became frightened at their own scheme of self-reform. The more they stretched their prerogative in transforming the Irish Church measure, the greater became their self-confidence until the admission of two life peers a year appeared to be no longer "childish tinkering," but assumed the proportions of a radical change. It was natural under these circumstances that Lord Malmesbury, whose faith in his order approaches sublimity, should not only come to the top, but be welcomed as a leader, and grow almost eloquent in defence of hereditary legislators. His lordship won an easy victory on the third reading of the Life Peerages Bill. If his eulogy on the assembly which has existed so many centuries, and his catalogue of the distinguished lawyers and landowners, soldiers and prelates, statesmen and diplomats, who constitute that august House, were not overpowering, the noble Earl proved himself to be a friend in need to his brother Peers. Under his leadership, despite the sensible protest of Earl Stanhope, and the touching appeals of Earl Russell, the Bill which the Tory Lords had accepted in principle, and reduced to a mere shadow of reform in Committee, was on Thursday night summarily rejected. This decision is hardly to be regretted. The measure itself had become too meagre to be worthy of acceptance. But by admitting the necessity of life peerages, the hereditary chamber recognised a principle which only a few years ago it had successfully contested. Earl Russell's Bill is gone, but that concession cannot be recalled.

It is felt on all sides that Earl Russell's measure, however well intended, is not suited to the exigencies of the case. Every year the divergence between the two legislative assemblies is becoming more marked, and the admission of a couple of hybrid peers annually into the Upper House would in no appreciable degree reduce that distance. Undoubtedly there is some advantage in one Chamber having a different bias from the other, and looking at the work of legislation from a distinct point of view. That is an essential qualification of a Senate as compared with a Representative Chamber. But the House of Lords has become something more than an independent court of review. It is an obstruction to wise legislation—a mere machinery for throwing out measures in favour of which public opinion has been thoroughly matured. An assembly in which the Government of the day cannot venture to initiate legislation because of its notorious Tory tendencies, and where every liberal proposal that affects vested interests in Church or State is sure of repeated rejection, can hardly be said to fulfil any useful function in political life, and stands condemned. The state coach may sometimes require a drag, but if the drag is always down, it becomes a nuisance. In these days of progress it is inconsistent with common sense as well as constitutional principles that incessant agitation and exhausting labour should be necessary in order to carry every modicum of practical reform.

Soon after Earl Russell proposed his Life Peerages Bill, the House of Lords had a unique opportunity of exhibiting its readiness to conform to the expressed wishes of the nation. In the recent debates, the Peers themselves, rather than the Irish Church Bill, were on their trial. They have been found wanting—they stand self-condemned as ignorant of, or out of harmony with, the spirit of the times. Last year the Lords exercised their power of veto in the case of the Suspensory Bill, and the exercise of their prerogative was not challenged. The question at issue was referred to the country, and the response of the enlarged electoral body was clear and decisive. But their Lordships now decline to be bound by the issue of that appeal, and have been dealing with the Irish Church Bill as though the whole

question had come up *de novo*. The Bill of the House of Commons has been superseded by a Peers' Bill, and the Marquis of Salisbury and the bishops have usurped the prerogatives of the responsible Ministers of the Crown. The national verdict has been set aside, and the principle of partial re-endowment substituted for impartial disenchantment. The Upper House has vindicated its reputation for eloquence, but at the expense of its consistency and good sense. It has proved itself to be out of sympathy with the national feeling and needs, reactionary in its tendencies, and reckless of consequences. The Peers have gratuitously created a dead-lock in the constitutional machine, and at a time when the democratic spirit of the age has increased the distance between the two branches of the legislature, have fallen back upon obsolete rights, and placed themselves in antagonism to the Government and the nation.

Such a curious political anomaly is not to be remedied by the creation of two life peers a year. The Upper House has prudently rejected a measure which the Lower House would have pronounced to be wholly inadequate to the occasion. The precise mode in which the hereditary chamber should be reformed remains an open question. But by some means it will have to be brought into harmony with the national will. Admirable as, for the most part, is the working of the British constitution, it has been thrown out of gear by the assumption of the Peers, just at the period when the Commons most effectively represent the people. For our own part we have no faith in these excessive checks on legislation, and can only regard the belief in the usefulness of the House of Lords, as at present constituted, as a superstition. Whether the needed reform be effected by reconstruction, by the abrogation of hereditary claims, or by the application of the life peers principle, that assembly will have to be brought into harmony with the other House, and all the attempts of their Lordships to stave off the change, and vindicate obsolete claims, will only hasten the inevitable result.

#### WELSH LANDLORDS AND THE ENGLISH COMMONS.

It has not fallen to the happy lot of many of the new members of the House of Commons, in the present Session, to make such a favourable impression upon the House as was made by the hon. member for Merthyr Tydyl at the evening sitting of Tuesday week. Mr. Richard, on that occasion, spoke for an hour upon a new, and to many members an exceedingly distasteful subject. In the present House the landlord element is probably less predominant than it has ever been, but it is still powerful, both in its representation and in its influence. Mr. Richard, who has lost none of his moral courage by his transference to the sphere of the legislators, had announced his intention of moving a resolution of the House condemnatory of the conduct of certain landlords in Wales towards their tenants, on account of their exercise of the franchise at the last General Election. The step was a bold one, and it required some courage to take it. Facing the hon. member as he rose, were some of the very men whose proceedings he was about to attack, or men who had been elected under the influences which it was his purpose to condemn. But, with full command over himself and his materials, and moved and sustained by a high patriotic purpose, Mr. Richard spoke for about an hour with perfect self-possession and deliberateness, and great eloquence. For once, the Welsh people, and, for the first time, the Welsh Nonconformists, had a representative speaker. So it was felt on both sides, and, for the future, whatever matter may arise affecting the interests of the Principality, the member for Merthyr Tydyl will be looked to as the principal authority upon that matter in the English House of Commons.

Much that Mr. Richard told to the House must have been new to the ears of those who heard it, but new simply because Wales has not, until now, sent a member fit in all respects to represent her. His description of the political and literary sympathies of the Nonconformists, or in other words, the people of the Principality, the depth and consistency of their political feelings, and the extent of their reading and their education, was listened to, we are afraid, with that sort of curious interest with which persons always listen to entirely new information. When the speaker proceeded to describe how education and political intelligence had spread amongst the people, but how the landlords could not, or would not, understand this, he hit upon what we believe to be the real secret of landlord intolerance. For if we were to get at the hearts of these men we

should, we have no doubt, find them to be very little different from our own. But their feelings have been warped out of their normal course by the fact that they have for many generations past, and until very recently, naturally stood in a position in almost all respects superior to that of their tenants. Just now, we imagine, these positions are reversed. If you want the best order of intelligence, if you want the purest morals and the purest religion, the highest appreciation of spiritual truth, and the deepest reverence for all the sanctities of religion, you have to go not to the landlords, but to the people of Wales. This is what the landlords have as yet neither seen nor understood. Then, also, no public opinion has exercised itself upon what has been done either for good or for evil, by them. They have been almost a law unto themselves. What public opinion has existed has been simply that of the people around them, the majority of whom have been their own tenants or dependants. What have they cared for this? They have therefore gone on and on, never suspecting that one day the Welsh would take matters into their own hands, and send a representative to Parliament who would expose them to their own faces and challenge the vote of the House of Commons in condemnation of their course.

The statements of the member for Merthyr-Tydvil, given as they were with names, dates, and every proof of authenticity and truthfulness; made in calm language and with no attempt at undue denunciation, with no violence of manner, tone, or temper—any of which would, under the circumstances, have been excusable—made a singular impression. Those on the Liberal benches who sat around him very soon acquired confidence not only in his strength but in his case, while those who sat opposite were dismayed by the marshalled array of evidence which was brought forward against them. The speaker, so strong a case had he, could well afford to be moderate. As he detailed case after case of almost unparalleled cruelty, as he told of conscience being overborne, of homes deserted, of fortunes lost, of the fruit of industry being thrown away, an indignant spirit arose. Once there was an attempt to sneer the cases down. This was when the speaker described how stalwart men, who were compelled to leave their homes, had been seen with tears in their eyes. Then the base and hardening influence of hard and base actions was seen, for the recital excited in the Opposition not disgust but nothing but jeering laughter.

When Mr. Richard sat down, it was felt that he had won his case. The Welsh landlords who rose to speak in opposition had literally nothing to say in their defence. The moral sense of the House was against them, and they spoke perhaps even worse than they usually speak. It was not necessary to push the resolution to a division. All that was needed to be done had been done. It is not possible to put down landlord vice, or any other vice, by law, excepting in so far as law may be an expression of public sentiment and feeling. This public sentiment and feeling has been excited by Mr. Richard's speech. The worst landlords are now trying to prove themselves to be innocent of the charges brought against them. They are, for the first time, ashamed. They will not, of course, give over their intolerance at once, but we feel pretty confident that the next elections for Wales will be freer than the last. The liberties of a million people were perhaps never more clearly extended than they have now been by Mr. Richard.

#### CENTRAL ASIA AND INDIA.

It is to be hoped that the vague fears of our fellow-countrymen in India will be dispelled by the sentiments expressed on behalf of the Government in the debate of Friday night. A discussion more creditable to the enlightenment and moderation of British statesmanship we have seldom read. Russophobia was once rife amongst all our educated classes. It has now almost died out in England, though it has still many victims in India.

This revolution of feeling is natural enough. Russia has, to a large extent, withdrawn from the politics of Western Europe, and we no longer trace the influence of her astute diplomats, as was once the case, in the leading continental Courts. The present Czar is altogether too mild and civilised a Sovereign to be a bugbear to constitutional States, and the author of the ukase for the abolition of serfdom has won the respect of Europe so far as is possible in the case of a potentate who is resolutely though silently stamping out all national life in Poland. The traditional policy of Russia, if not changed, is suspended. The Porte hardly feels the pressure of the great Northern Court; the necessities of Prussia, as the head of the North German

Confederation, are bringing about a complete divergence of views and aims between the two Governments. Russia's subservient ally of yesterday has to day grown into her formidable rival by sea as well as by land. The Prussian Court has European schemes of its own; Count Bismarck has supplanted Prince Gortschakoff in continental politics; and Germany, once paralysed by Russian intrigue acting through her petty princes, is now a formidable bulwark against Muscovite intervention in Western Europe.

Thus checked towards the West, Russian energy has found ample scope for action beyond the Eastern frontier. For many years past it has been lavishly expended in subjugating the barbarous tribes occupying the vast regions of Central Asia, a million of square miles in extent, which, though to a great extent sterile, are rich in minerals. The forces of the Czar have conquered Bokhara, occupied Samarcand, and are now encircling Khiva, a State which is some 1,400 miles from the northern frontier of India. The steady advance of the Muscovite Power has, however, created something like a panic in our Eastern Empire, and various expedients have been discussed for arresting Russian progress. Some Indian politicians, forgetful of the disastrous past, have advocated the conquest of Afghanistan. Others have strongly urged an alliance with the sovereign of that mountainous district. The present Government, following the policy of Lord Lawrence, are content to give a moral support to Shere Ali without entering into entangling engagements.

The fear that Russia will, for generations to come, be able to threaten India was completely dissipated by Mr. Grant Duff in his interesting and elaborate speech of Friday night. He showed that a Muscovite invasion of our Eastern Empire was a wild chimera. We are still, as he said, separated from each other by vast distances, and the orbits of our policies do not touch. There is no ground either for alarm or jealousy. The views of our Government relative to the Central Asian question were explained by the Under Secretary for India, and still more explicitly defined in Mr. Gladstone's closing speech. "The policy of England in India, and in the East generally," said the Prime Minister, "is a policy for the benefit of those over whom she rules, and one tending to good-will with those beyond our own frontiers. The recent transactions between the representatives of the British Government and the Ameer of Cabul involve us in no engagements. What they have done can have no binding effect in determining the future policy or proceedings of England, or in causing her to depart in the slightest degree—either by exceeding or by falling short—from that which the circumstances and the policy of the moment may appear from time to time to demand. The principle laid down with perfect truth is not that a political object properly so called with reference to a third Power should be sought, but that we are to promote peace, contentment, and good government, if possible, in a country neighbouring to our own." So far from Russia pursuing any covert designs against us in Asia, the Government of the Czar have suggested "that it might be for the convenience of both countries and for the general advantage, if it were understood that between that portion of Central Asia in which Russia exercises influence and the territories in which we hold a dominion, there was interposed a neutral zone in which there should be no contact, and therefore no rivalry between the action of those two Powers."

Afghanistan, with its huge mountains and narrow defiles, is the impregnable barrier of British India to the north, and the Cabinet of St. Petersburg has gone out of its way to declare that this State "ought to be regarded as a region lying beyond the range of Russian influence."

These assurances will, it is hoped, have a tranquillising effect in India. Our real security in the East is in the equitable rule of the vast population that own our sway, and in associating them with us, as far as possible, in the government of the empire. Secure in the confidence of the Hindoos, there need be no apprehension of external invasion. Such resources as our Viceroy in India can command are needed, as Mr. Duff says, for the moral and material development of the country. That will be the source of our strength. Happily our statesmen at home are in complete accord on this subject. Sir Stafford Northcote is as zealous as Mr. Gladstone, and Sir C. Wingfield agrees with Mr. Grant Duff, in deprecating interference with any of the States bordering on India, in discrediting all suspicion of Russian action in Central Asia, and in trusting to a liberal administration and the development of the industry of the people, as the best guarantee of our rule in the East.

#### THE SILENT REVOLUTION IN INDIA.

STUPENDOUS are the changes effected by the hands of time. The slave becomes the conqueror and the conqueror becomes the slave. Nations arise, flourish in all the pomp of glory and power, and then disappear from the pages of history. Nothing seems permanent save eternity. The most ancient institutions, however prized and jealously guarded, must, sooner or later, yield to the universal law of change. There seems to be no exception to the rule. But even in these transformations, in these great upheavings of both the physical and social worlds, there are numerous indications of a mighty scheme, requiring centuries upon centuries for its full accomplishment; a scheme apparently having for its final aim the rendering of man and his earthly dwelling-place far more perfect and complete than ever was dreamed by the most utopian of poets. Centuries ago the arts and luxuries of civilisation were confined to a favoured few; now they are being gradually extended to every portion of the habitable globe. Old traditions, old customs, old laws, old habits, are everywhere dying out before the advancing spirit of the age. China has long since found the adamant barriers haughtily erected by it for the express purpose of checking the progress of Western ideas, triumphantly cast down, and its cities rendered familiar with the footstep of the detested white "barbarian." Japan is beginning to yield to the same irresistible influence of the Anglo-Saxon; while, in the land of Tippoo Saib, the same marvellous and irrepressible mechanical agencies, which have effected such vast and startling social changes in the leading European countries, destroying the ancient insularity of nations, and bringing the peoples more harmoniously in contact with each other, are beginning to make themselves perceptibly felt. The extension of the railway system to India betokens the commencement, in that strange, mysterious country, of a social revolution of the most astounding magnitude; a movement of far greater importance to this country than even the alleged Russian aggressions which have recently formed the subject of Parliamentary interpolations and alarmist newspaper articles. The one great obstacle which has for years impeded the development of the real resources and capabilities of the Indian Empire, rendering it peoples the serfs of every foreign invader, and causing them to lag far behind in the study of the arts and appliances of civilised life, has been the existence of the enervating institution of caste, which, next to the curse of misgovernment, has been the most fertile source of the many political and economical evils from which our Indian possessions have so long suffered.

A few years ago the social revolution now in full operation in India, would have been spoken of as impossible. Nowhere in the whole world were railways more wanted than in India, and nowhere else was the probability of their successful introduction apparently more problematical. Those who professed to be ultimately acquainted with the actual condition and wants of the country were loud and vehement in their assertions that railways were not wanted and would not answer in India. "Railways," they said, "might be made, but the natives would not use them." Caste, prejudice, and superstitious fear, would be stronger, they thought, than the natural desire to go to and fro. Every conceivable objection was argued against them, and not a single argument was allowed in their favour. But the use of railways was inevitable. The attempts to withstand their introduction into India proved as futile as Mrs. Partington's insane attempts to sweep back with her broom the advancing waves of the Atlantic. As stated by the writer of a thoughtful and instructive article in the *Cornhill Magazine*, the new railways "are not only used by millions of natives every year, but 'coppers' are found to be of even greater consideration than caste." This is shown by the significant fact that "a high caste will rather submit to the indignity of sitting cheek by jowl with his own servants than pay the extra cost of a second-class fare; and, what is more, does not find himself the worse for it at his journey's end." It is impossible to exaggerate the importance and significance of this circumstance. Once destroy the prestige of caste in India, and one of the most comprehensive and pregnant social, political, and religious revolutions of modern times, will have become effected. The very foundations of the Hindoo creed will have become rudely shaken, and the way prepared for the supplanting of the Indian mythology, with its cruel superstitions, by the purer and more elevating doctrines of Christianity. With the aid of railways, the Anglo-Saxon will have achieved far greater material triumphs over the races under his irresistible sway, than ever were obtained by the Roman legions over his boorish, bear-

swilling, and quarrelsome ancestors. Not in our day, perhaps, will the actual influence of the new railways be so largely experienced as in the time of our children; yet it may be that their consequences may prove more immediate. By uniting together the whole of the Indian provinces in one cohesive framework, by bringing together their different races and peoples, it may tend to develop those ideas of Indian nationality and independence, which, more than aught else, would form—when fully matured—an almost insuperable barrier against the realisation of Russia's ambitious dreams of universal Asiatic dominion.

There is no need to repeat the story of the Indian railways and the manner in which a large portion of the cost of their construction was borne by the Indian Government. With all the errors of mis-expenditure and jobbery, the money has not been unprofitably misapplied. The total length of the various Indian lines constructed or in course of construction is 5,900 miles, and their actual cost, when completed, about 90,000,000*l.* sterling—less than the expenditure entailed by many a small European war, yet how far different in results!

To Lord Dalhousie must always belong the honour of having been among the foremost in encouraging the development of railway enterprise in India. Nor is this honour one to be despised. The Viceroy who earned it did more to promote the future social prosperity and political freedom of the many millions of Hindoos whom he was called upon to govern, than had been effected by the whole tribe of Anglo-Indian rulers, from the time of Clive upwards. How necessary were these Indian railways, and the remarkable extent to which they have superseded the primitive and cumbersome native forms of conveyance, may be inferred from the fact that during 1868 the lines in operation carried no less than 15,000,000 passengers, and 2,870,000 tons of goods. This, be it remembered, has taken place during the very infancy of the Indian railway system. Another characteristic fact is, that of the 82,376,000*l.* required for the construction of the various railways, only 800,000*l.* was subscribed in India; the rest came from England, as did most of the railway material and requisite. The engine-drivers, guards, and other railway servants likewise, are nearly all English, but, in process of time, it is believed that a sufficient number of natives will be found ready to undertake these duties. When once the Indians become thoroughly accustomed to the railways, the first act of the revolution will have terminated, and it will no longer be said of the English that were they to be suddenly driven out of India they would leave behind no permanent traces of their rule. They have boldly inaugurated an unprecedented experiment, one which may ultimately change the whole character of Indian life and manners, and, by bringing the active and ceaselessly progressing civilisation of the West, in its most impressive and practical character, to bear upon the natural indolence of the East, may create new races and peoples destined ultimately to play no unimportant part in the history of the world. After all, the English conquest of India had its purpose, although far different from that dreamed of by the conquerors.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### LIFE PEERAGES BILL.

On Thursday, on the motion for the third reading of the Life Peerages Bill, the Earl of MALMSESBURY moved its rejection. He argued that the present constitution of the Upper House was as perfect as it could be made, and that there was no necessity for the proposed change. As for the argument that the measure would popularise the House, Mr. Bright, at any rate, did not believe it would, for he called it "childish tinkering." Nor could it be hoped that a life peerage would attract persons who might refuse an hereditary dignity. On the contrary, various illustrious men had declined the peerage for the very reason that they were childless. Lord LYVEDEN regretted that the number of life peers originally proposed had not been adhered to. Lord STANHOPE, in supporting the bill, suggested that the Irish prelates might be made life peers, and remarked that he, in common with other Conservative peers, entertained a strong objection to disestablished prelates, as such, sitting in the House of Lords. Lord GRANVILLE was at a loss to understand the motives of the Opposition in opposing the bill now after having consented to its being read a first and then a second time. He also complained of the use which had been made of Mr. Bright's name. Lord CAIRNS had always entertained objections to the bill, and those objections were strengthened by the conviction that the Lords would not have sufficient time to consider any alterations which the Commons might make in it, and that it was inexpedient to open up in the other House a discussion with regard to the constitution of the hereditary assembly. Lord RUSSELL replied in almost inaudible tones, and a speech by Lord

DENMAN provoked a scene. On a division the ayes were 77, noes 106. The bill was therefore lost by a majority of 29.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the Bankruptcy Bill. Lord CAIRNS approved of the principle of the measure, but objected to the way in which the officers of the courts were dealt with. After some observations from Lord ROMILLY and CHELMSFORD, the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Friday next.

The Municipal Franchise Bill was read a second time, and their Lordships adjourned about eight o'clock.

#### IRISH CHURCH BILL.

On Friday, on the report being brought up of the Committee on the Irish Church Bill, Lord CARNARVON moved the restoration of the date January 1, 1871, as the period from which the disestablishment was to take effect. He asserted that the original date was in accordance with the views of a majority of the Irish Church.

After remarks from Lord LONGFOORD, in opposition to the latter statement, Lord CAIRNS, who admitted the existence of a great difference of opinion in Ireland itself, suggested that, as rent-charges were paid in May, May 1, 1871, would be a convenient date. Lord GRANVILLE supported Lord Carnarvon's view; but Lord Cairns' date of May 1, 1871, was eventually agreed to.

Lord STANHOPE's motion, to preserve to the Armagh Observatory the benefit of the rectorial tithes of Carlingford, customarily renewable by the see of Armagh, raised considerable discussion. It was opposed by Lord DUFFERIN, on the ground that the endowment was a private gift; but he allowed the Observatory was entitled to the consideration of the Government in some other way. After further observations, Lord STANHOPE withdrew the motion on the faith of Lord Dufferin's promise.

Lord COLCHESTER's amendment, to exempt those who should be from time to time bishops and deans of the Irish Church, from the penalties of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, was opposed by the LORD CHANCELLOR and Lord GRANVILLE, and supported by Lords HARROWBY and BANDON. Lord CAIRNS opposed the amendment, on the ground that there was no immediate necessity for agitating the question, as the bill was not to come into operation till May, 1871, and that if the Irish Church were to be reorganised the Ecclesiastical Titles Act must at all events be, before that time came, materially altered. Lord COLCHESTER was finally induced to withdraw the amendment under pressure of an amendment of Lord SALISBURY on the amendment, which would have made it quite general, and taken away its exclusive application to the Irish Protestant Church.

Lord REDESDALE then moved, though at the same time he admitted his intention not to press, his amendment to give seats in rotation to one archbishop and two bishops of the Roman Catholic as well as of the Irish Church, on condition that those two Churches consented to place the appointment to vacant sees in the hands of the Queen, the Church nominating on every vacancy three persons, out of whom the Queen was to elect one. Lord GRANARD denied that the Irish Roman Catholics would accept the offer, which he suspected was not a *bond fide* one as regarded the Roman Catholic Church, but proceeded simply from a desire to retain the seats of the Protestant bishops. Lord REDESDALE maintained the expediency of the change he had proposed, but withdrew the amendment.

Some verbal amendments by Lord CAIRNS in Clause 14 were agreed to.

On the Duke of ARGYLL's appeal on the subject of Lord Cairns' amendment to Clause 2, which the Duke maintained would seriously trench upon the freedom of the new Church, Lord CAIRNS consented to reserve the clause till the third reading.

Lord CAIRNS' amendment in Clause 26, to reserve burial-grounds for the use of the Church, whether or not separated from the church by a public highway, was agreed to, notwithstanding the opposition of Lord KIMBERLEY, who represented the convenience, even from the Church point of view, of placing such burial-grounds under the care of a neutral body.

The subject of concurrent endowment came up again on Clause 28, the Marquis of CLANRICARDE moving the restoration of the latter part of the clause, which required payment of the building charges on glebe-houses retained by the new Church. As the clause stood as amended, the inequality between the Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches was made yet more flagrant. It was impossible that the bill, the main principle of which was equality, could as so changed be accepted by the House of Commons or by the country; and if the bill were lost in consequence the only effect would be that another bill would be speedily introduced, depriving the Church of the advantage this clause in its original state gave it.

The Marquis of SALISBURY, while repeating his approval of the Duke of Cleveland's proposal, and his readiness to vote for it again, claimed the surrender of the Protestant parsonages on the faith of the pledges contained in the speeches of Mr. Gladstone, the Duke of Argyll, and Mr. Bright last year. Lord CAIRNS asserted the larger part of the majority which had supported the amendment, had voted for it without any reference to the rest of the Duke of Cleveland's scheme.

Earl GRANARY and the Duke of CLEVELAND supported the restoration of the clause. Earl GRANVILLE pro-

tested against the statement of Lord SALISBURY, that by adopting his amendment the House had not in the slightest degree departed from the principle of religious equality among the various denominations in Ireland. He believed that the contrary was the case. (Hear, hear.) He had received a remarkable amount of information to the effect that this particular amendment with regard to residences had already in different parts of Ireland produced the greatest possible irritation.

Lord DANBIGH said he had been misinformed when he stated that glebe-houses, if offered to the Roman Catholic clergy as a matter of justice, would be accepted. A recent meeting of Irish Roman Catholic Bishops had decided on rejecting any such offer.

On a division, Lord Clanricarde's amendment was rejected by 91 to 56.

The proceedings had now begun to be rather more lively, and became almost excited when on the Archbishop of CANTERBURY moving an amendment, in effect accepting the Ministerial offer of half a million for private benefactions, Lord GRANVILLE explained that the proposal was contingent on the surrender of the Ulster grant, and that it fell to the ground when their lordships insisted on giving the latter to the Church. A storm of indignation broke from the Opposition benches. Lord CAIRNS protested against the behaviour of the Government, as being contrary to good faith, morals, and equity. Lord SALISBURY said their lordships did not know whether to trust their own ears; the offer, when made, was supposed to be specific and unconditional. The Ulster grant was quite a separate question. Lord DANBIGH asked if the offer had been accepted at the moment when made, what then? To which Lord GRANVILLE replied that the postponement of the question, whether the offer should be taken, made all the difference. Ultimately, the Archbishop's amendment was carried without a division.

Some additional amendments in matters of detail were agreed to, and the report was then received.

Their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes past nine o'clock.

#### IRISH CHURCH BILL.

On Monday, the Royal assent having been given by commission to several bills, the third reading of the Irish Church Bill was proposed.

Lord CLANCARTY, in a lengthy speech, moved that it be read that day three months. He said there were many reasons against it, especially the Coronation Oath and the Treaty of Union, and no reasons whatever worth naming for it.

Lord LURGAN, in an able maiden speech, supported the bill from a Protestant Episcopalian's point of view and as a resident in a district where the Established Church was well represented. He believed the bill necessary, just, adapted to promote the objects it professed, and in conformity with the rule to do to others as we would they should do to us. He urged the Government to adhere strictly to the principles of the bill, and he combated the proposal to endow the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic clergy with glebe-houses on the ground that such a benefaction was not desired by those bodies themselves.

Lord DERBY retained all his dislike to the principles of the bill, whether as a measure of disestablishment or of disendowment, and as the alterations in committee had not affected the principle of disestablishment at all, and not very materially that of disendowment, since the property to be left to the Church would not after all exceed the income of many private persons, he should still feel obliged to vote for the rejection of the bill if the motion were pressed. He advised, however, that a division should not be forced. But if that bill with the amendments introduced by their lordships be sent down to the Commons, and if there her Majesty's Government took upon themselves to reject the very moderate and reasonable amendments which had been introduced, and especially if their lordships remained firm, as he trusted they would—(Hear, hear)—if they refused the fair and reasonable terms which their lordships offered, the responsibility would rest with them and not with their lordships' House. (Cheers.)

Lord LYTTELTON, although he thought the necessity for such a measure a very painful one, should support the bill. For himself he should have preferred the mild form of concurrent endowment contained in the Duke of Cleveland's proposal; but if that were not possible he saw no objection to the dedication of the surplus to charity.

The Bishop of TUAM assailed the cheapskate parsimony of the bill, and entreated the consideration of Parliament and the Government for the wants of the poor Irish clergy, in which class he stated that 681 must be reckoned out of the total number of 1,500.

Lord CLANCARTY withdrew his motion, and the bill was then read a third time.

Lord DANBIGH gave notice that he and other peers intended on Thursday to lay a protest on the table of the House against the bill.

On the question that the bill do pass, Lord DEVON moved the omission of the reservation in Clause 13 of the right of present Irish bishops to retain their seats. It was, he represented, a novelty and an anomaly that the bishops of a disestablished Church should retain their seats as bishops. The representative character of Irish bishops sitting in the House distinguished their cases from that of ordinary members of the House.

Lord REDESDALE believed the principle on which this House was founded to be that the privilege of

a seat, once acquired, could not be lost without sufficient cause. On this ground he objected to Lord Devon's amendment. This was a peerage, not an Establishment question. He should not, however, object to the omission of words which implied that these prelates sat as prelates.

Lord PENZANCE showed that the bishops sat by virtue of the possession of baronies; and, the baronies being destroyed, the right to sit in the House necessarily followed. If they continued to sit they would sit by a new tenure.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY thought the fallacy in Lord Penzance's argument was that it did not recognise the fact that, as the right of present prelates was retained by the same clause which destroyed the right of bishops to sit as such, the destruction of the right was only conditional. It was inconsistent, he believed, with the preservation by the bill of existing rights to take away the right to a seat in the House. Besides being bishops who had been appointed by the Crown, present bishops differed from future bishops of the Irish Church.

Lord DE GRASY pointed out the parallel case of an English bishop resigning his see, which carried with it the loss of his seat in the House.

Lord CAIRNS, in answer to Lord Penzance, denied that the Irish bishops sat simply by virtue of baronies. They sat by an express statutory right. The reservation of existing rights carried with it, he thought, the right to retain seats in the House, and he was not afraid that any irritation would result from the House sanctioning this. If in course of time the bishops themselves desired to be relieved from their attendance, it would be a different matter.

Lord GARNETT replied to the Archbishop that the rights reserved by the bill were rights capable of pecuniary compensation, while this right was not. He maintained that the retention of these seats was contrary to public interest, as keeping up a cause of irritation, and also to the interest of the Church itself, which would be prejudiced by removing prelates, particularly at such a crisis, from their dioceses.

The LORD CHANCELLOR dwelt on the inconsistency of the proposed right with the usages of the House. The bill disestablished the Church and dissolved the ecclesiastical corporations of the Irish Church. It was contrary to the principle on which, according to Lord Hale, bishops sat—viz., by custom of Parliament—that after the disestablishment these bishops should continue to sit.

On a division the amendment was carried by 108 to 82.

Some unimportant amendments by Lord CAIRNS in Clause 17 were agreed to.

Lord STANHOPE then moved his amendment in Clause 28, to provide residences for the Roman Catholic parish priests and Presbyterian ministers, and where not at present existing, for Protestant Episcopal prelates and clergy. The merit of the proposal, he represented, was that it was virtually unconditional, and required no negotiation. He justified it by the authority of Mr. Pitt and Sir Robert Peel, and as completely in harmony with the principle of governing Ireland for the Irish. The report of the Irish Church Commission showed that such a gift would be for the benefit of the disestablished Church, which was at present inadequately provided with glebe-houses, equally with the other religious bodies in Ireland. Hitherto the bill had brought no peace to Ireland; but he intimated a hope that its ill effects might be counterpoised by the advantages of this amendment.

Lord HOVENHORN feared the practical effect of the bill would be extremely small. What was wanted was to produce an immediate impression in Ireland that there was to be a policy of religious equality; but as the existing rights, and even the precedence, of the present Protestant clergy, were minutely preserved, a moderate and just concession like that now proposed was the only means of demonstrating to the Irish peasantry that this was the intention of the Government in the present bill.

The Duke of SOMERSET thought the bill in no sense a liberal measure, appealing as it did simply to the passions of rival religious denominations. He reflected on Mr. Gladstone's tendency to be always in extremes, at one time all for a State Church and now all for Voluntaryism. For himself, he thought the advantages were not wholly on the side of the latter. As it was, however, the changes made by the House in the bill on the side of liberality were all in favour of the Church. In the desire to balance these concessions to the Church by corresponding ones to the other religious bodies in Ireland, he should vote for the amendment.

Lord KIMBERLEY said the Duke of Somerset's criticisms made no distinction between the Government bill and the bill as amended. In answer to Lord Stanhope, he pointed out the differences between Mr. Pitt's policy and that contained in the present amendment, which, besides, he showed assumed a state of things in Ireland—e.g., the existence of only one Presbyterian community in Ireland, whereas there were several—quite unlike the reality. It required to be proved that the Roman Catholics of Ireland desired this gift. Whatever might be the merits of concurrent endowment, now, at any rate—when the country at the general election had prejudged the question, and decided positively against it—the Government could not, without a breach of faith, agree to it.

Lord GRANARD, on the part of his co-religionists in Ireland, refused his consent to the amendment. After the understanding arrived at with the Non-conformists and with the Government, it would indeed be almost a breach of faith for him to vote for it.

The Duke of LUMARRE referred to his own expe-

rience. He had built residences for ministers of all three denominations on his estate, and they had all accepted them very thankfully.

Lord DUNRAVEN was in favour of concurrent endowment, at least of the kind offered by the amendment. He explained the apparent neutrality of his fellow Roman Catholics by their willingness to risk anything so that they gained religious equality. He vindicated the loyalty and love of order of the Roman Catholic priesthood, and defended them from the charge of wringing a maintenance out of the hard earnings of the peasantry.

Lord HARROWBY, in view of the manifestation of public opinion against concurrent endowment, and from regard also to the practical difficulties in the way of ascertaining the wishes of the Church of Rome by negotiating and otherwise of carrying out the plan, felt reluctantly obliged to oppose the amendment. He proceeded to defend the amendments made in the bill by his side of the House.

Lord RUSSELL doubted there would be much feeling of religious equality in Ireland so long as the Protestant clergy were comfortably housed and the Roman Catholic priests lived in hovels. He commended the reticence of the Roman Catholics themselves in reference to this question.

Lord WESTBURY said he had in vain attempted to awaken the Government to a sense of what was their duty, for the purpose of producing peace in Ireland. This result would have followed from concurrent endowment; and he entreated the House to save the future historian of England from having to declare such a result had been missed through the bigotry of one party, and the lack of sufficient high spirit on the other to guide the opinion of the people of the country. Statements they had heard that evening from Roman Catholic peers disposed of the report that the Roman Catholics would not accept such an endowment. His own peculiar interest was the welfare of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Ireland; but he felt that the increased benefits which the House had extorted for that Church made it now an act of mere justice to confer equivalent advantages on the other religions of Ireland. He ridiculed the objection that to do so would be to endow error. Did they mean to deal damnation round Europe?

Lord GRANVILLE wished simply to protest for the Government against the amendment, the principle of which had already been more than once discussed and rejected. He congratulated the other side on its development of liberal sentiments, as shown by the change of various sentiments expressed by the mover of the amendment; but he implored the House, for the sake of its reputation for statesmanship, not to send down to the other House a provision which in no case could that House be expected to adopt, but which, worded as it was, could not possibly produce the effects its advocates contemplated.

After a short reply by Lord STANHOPE, Lord CAIRNS expressed his opinion that this particular proposition was thoroughly unworkable, and also that a system of indiscriminate endowment was as well in itself highly inexpedient as also opposed to the feeling of England, and probably—so far as could be gathered from a comparison of Lord Denbigh's three retractions and two other Roman Catholic Peers' denials—to the feelings of the Roman Catholics of Ireland themselves. He recommended the friends of concurrent endowment, in the interest of that principle, to wait for the development they anticipated of public opinion, when, if ever it was developed, the surplus would remain ready for such distribution.

After an explanation from Lord DENBIGH, accompanied by intermittent cries of "Divide!" which entirely ceased to be intermittent on Lord DENBIGH's rising, a division was taken, when the amendment was carried by 121 to 114. The result was received with loud cheers.

An amendment by Lord GOUGH, to add to Clause 28 a provision empowering the Church Body to recover sums due for dilapidations in ecclesiastical residences vested in it, was agreed to.

A verbal amendment, moved by the Lord CHANCELLOR, at the end of Clause 67, was agreed to.

The bill then passed.

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter to twelve o'clock.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### TRADES UNIONS BILL.

On Wednesday Mr. THOMAS HUGHES moved the second reading of this bill, and in doing so entered at considerable length and in great detail into the whole history of the question—the Sheffield outrages, the investigations of the Royal Commission to which they gave rise, and the rival proposals which had been made for settling the relations between masters and workmen. His own measure did not aspire to settle all these problems, but was confined to the protection of the funds of trades unions against fraud or robbery, the repeal of the special laws against the combination of workmen, and the establishment of a condition of things under which they should be perfectly free to enter into contracts with their employers upon the best terms that they could make.

Mr. THOMAS BRASSEY, drawing his illustrations principally from his experience of the great transactions in which his father had been concerned, stated to the House a great number of facts to show that trades unions did not produce the mischiefs and inconveniences which had commonly been attributed to them; but at the same time expressed a confident conviction that they could not produce any permanent increase of wages, and pointed out that if they led to any temporary elevation this gain must be purchased at the expense of future loss, the

necessary and certain result of driving capital to trades or countries in which greater profits could be obtained. Upon a consideration of the whole subject he was prepared to support the second reading of this bill—a course in which he was followed by Mr. CHARLEY and Mr. PLATT. The hon. member for Oldham strongly condemned the apprenticeship system, as tending to encourage in the minds of the workmen an idea that they had some vested interest in their occupations, and some right to constant employment, notwithstanding any change of circumstances which might result from the introduction of machinery. In his opinion, the co-operative movement would beat the trades union system; and, while voting for the second reading of this bill, he asked that a clause should be inserted in it to protect non-unionists against the coercion to which they were frequently subjected by the members of those societies. Mr. PLIMSOUL's defence of the unions was of a much more sweeping and unqualified nature, and traversed so many topics, that before he concluded he had quite exhausted the patience of the House.

Mr. EDMUND POTTER was the first speaker who opposed the bill, and he condemned it as an encouragement to combination and a violation of the principles of free trade. Sir C. DILKE contended that this latter position; and Mr. MUNDELLA declared that it was his profound conviction that the country had gained greatly by combinations, and that the leaders of trades unions, instead of promoting strikes did a great deal to prevent them, and more particularly to keep them free from outrages. The speech of the member for Sheffield, which was illustrated by references to circumstances which had occurred in France, Belgium, Scotland, and other places, was one of the most striking delivered in the course of the debate, and evidently produced a great effect upon the House.

Mr. BAUCIS, speaking on behalf of the Government, said he believed there would be a general concurrence of opinion that the unions were entitled to legal protection for their funds. Many of their rules were unwise and mischievous, but the men were already beginning to see the error of their ways, and the more intelligent of the societies were abandoning the principles complained of. Further, it could not be denied that the combination laws required revision. Some of them were obsolete and inconsistent with modern ideas, but he could not commit himself to go so far as the bill, and repeal them altogether, without providing a substitute. The difficulty of the subject was how to check intimidation and coercion on the part of unions, and give due protection to non-unionists. Class legislation was, no doubt, as a rule, to be avoided, but the question was whether it was required by the special circumstances of a particular class. This was the justification of the Factory Acts, the Truck Act, and other pieces of class legislation. In the present instance there were forms of violence peculiar to unionism. Hissing was often a very small matter. On the hustings they had all a great contempt for it, and he could not say he was much affected when hissed the other day by a deputation of Sabbatarians in his own room merely because he did not agree with all they said. But if they imagined 400 or 500 men dodging a man backward and forward from his work, and hissing and hooting him all the way, and all with one object, to prevent him getting his bread in the way he chose, the hissing and hooting assumed a different character. How this kind of violence could be defined as a criminal offence, was a question which demanded calm and careful consideration. He regretted that the Government could not deal with the subject this year, but he undertook to prepare a bill for next session.

After some remarks by Mr. SAMUDA, Lord J. MANNERS, and others, Mr. W. E. FORSTER said the Government assented to the principle of the bill that combinations should be legalised, reserving for further consideration the question of protection for non-unionists.

The bill was then read a second time, and the House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. Kekewich, Mr. GOSCHEN said there was no truth in the story that the Poor Law Board had compelled children to go against their will to the Roman Catholic schools at Cockermouth, and had ordered them to be whipped. He gave a version of the circumstances which satisfied Mr. Kekewich.

In reply to Mr. Basley, Mr. OTWAY stated that the Spanish Government had expressed its readiness to negotiate a commercial treaty with this country, one of the bases of which was a reduction of our wine duties, and the offer was now under consideration.

##### THE ALABAMA QUESTION.

Mr. GLADSTONE appealed to Sir H. Bulwer, who has a notice on to-night's paper to call attention to our relations with the United States, to relinquish altogether the idea of raising a discussion on the subject this session. By this he assured Sir Henry he would be best serving the public interest, for the United States Government, though the recent treaty had been negatived, did not consider the subject definitely dropped, but thought it would be wiser that some interval should elapse before it was taken up again. He pointed out, too, that there had been no discussion in the United States Legislature.

Sir H. BULWER very reluctantly yielded to the appeal, because he was convinced that we should have cause to repent it if we left the question in its present state. He did not lay much stress on the rejection of the treaty nor on Mr. Sumner's speech, but he dreaded the effect of leaving an impression on the minds of the two peoples that exaggerated claims had been made which it would be equally dishonour-

able, and perhaps more dangerous, for us to grant at a future period. But if it was desired (and the general cheering intimated unmistakeably the feeling of the House) he would not persevere in his design, though he threw on the Government the responsibility of what might happen in consequence of the subject not being ventilated.

## DECORATION OF THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

On the report of Monday night's Committee of Supply being brought up, Mr. DILLWIN, seconded by Mr. C. BENTINCK, renewed his objection to the item of £5,000 for altering the Central Hall of the House and decorating it with mosaics; and his motion to omit it led to a lively discussion. As a matter of taste, Mr. Layard's proposal, which he defended with much animation, was approved by Mr. B. Hope, Mr. Tite, Mr. Gregory, and others, and he offered to consent to a reduction of some £3,000. But an admission he made that contracts had been entered into before the vote was taken gave a financial turn to the controversy. Mr. WARD HUNT asked whether the Treasury had given its consent to these contracts; and Mr. GLADSTONE, without answering this question, admitted that as a general rule it was improper that contracts should be made before the House had granted the money, but it was necessary now and then. He distinguished between an entirely new service and a continuous series of votes, and he contended that the decoration of the House came under the latter category, for the House had voted money for it year after year now for a long period. Speaking of the future, he thought it would be well if a rule could be laid down regulating the practice as to these contracts. Mr. WARD HUNT and Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH objected to the vagueness and inaccuracy of Mr. Gladstone's distinction; and Mr. HUNT repeated his former inquiry, which drew from Mr. LAYARD the confession that the consent of the Treasury had not been asked to these contracts. Mr. Lowe and Mr. T. BARKING pointed out that the contractors would be the only persons to suffer if the item were struck out. Lord J. MANNERS and Mr. BOUVERIE thought that as Mr. Layard had confessed his fault it would be pressing the matter too far to strike out the item, but Mr. Muntz, Mr. White, Mr. S. Aytoun, and Lord C. Hamilton insisted that it was necessary for the purpose of vindicating the financial control of Parliament. Mr. HIBBERT suggested that as this mosaic decoration was new, the vote should be re-postponed for a year, that the experiment might be tried in some remote part of the House; but Mr. GREGORY objected that by this course the House would be punishing itself. A division was then taken, and Mr. Dillwyn's motion being rejected by 187 to 97, the vote was agreed to in the reduced sum agreed to by Mr. Layard.

After a discussion raised by Mr. AYTOON, relative to the application of the loan raised under Imperial guarantee for the Canadian Intercolonial Railway to the redemption of a portion of the Canadian debt,

The House went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates, and spent some four hours in discussing them. Class 1 (Public Works and Buildings) was completed, and the first four votes of Class 2 (Expenses of Public Departments) were agreed to—viz., House of Lords (£6,438), House of Commons (£4,482), Treasury (£9,275), Home Office (£5,696).

## UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

On the motion that this bill be read a third time, Mr. Cross said he hoped it would not be read a third time that night.

The SPEAKER was putting the question, when

Mr. Cross moved that the debate be adjourned, and the motion was seconded; but the original question was put, and the House divided upon it. The numbers were:—

For the third reading . . . . . 116  
Against it . . . . . 65

Majority . . . . . 51

The bill was then read a third time, and passed amid cheers.

Fifty-five clauses of the Valuation of Property (Metropolis) Bill were passed by the Committee, when progress was reported.

## SUNDAY AND RAGGED-SCHOOLS BILL.

On the motion that this bill as amended be considered,

Mr. HADFIELD moved to add to the end of the clause the following:—

That nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the right of exemption from rating of Sunday or infant schools, or for the charitable education of the poor in any churches, district churches, chapels, meeting-houses, or other premises, or any vestry rooms belonging thereto, or any part thereof, by virtue of an Act passed in the third and fourth years of the reign of King William the Fourth, chapter thirty, intituled "An Act to exempt from Poor and Church-rates, all Churches, Chapels, and other places of Religious Worship."

Mr. REED did not object, and the proviso was agreed to.

The House adjourned at a quarter to two o'clock.

On Friday, the House, at its morning sitting, made progress with the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill in Committee, up to Clause 90.

In answer to a question from Sir H. Verney, Mr. MONSELL stated that the Canadian Government had given a general assent to the arrangement with the Hudson's Bay Company.

At the evening sitting, Mr. Bruce declined to give Mr. Newdegate a special evening for questioning the arrest of Mr. Murphy.

## THE CENTRAL ASIAN QUESTION.

Mr. EASTWICK brought forward his long-promised and often deferred motion for papers in regard to the Central Asian question. He argued that the policy of the British Government should be to support Persia by lending English officers to drill the Persian troops, and other means, instead of entangling ourselves with the Afghans. Sir C. WINGFIELD also disapproved the recent transaction between Lord Mayo and the Ameer of Cabul, as likely to be the commencement of a rivalry of intrigue between us and the Russians in Afghanistan, and deprecated very strongly any engagement with that country.

The chief interest of the discussion centred in Mr. GRANT DUFF's statement of our Indian policy. After a passing allusion to the loss Parliament had sustained in the transfer of Sir H. Rawlinson to the Indian Council, and the death of Lord Strangford, he explained with much precision and lucidity the present position of affairs. Our relations with Russia were at present of the most cordial kind, and the communications which had lately passed between the two Governments with regard to Central Asia, communications to which undue importance had been attached, had been most friendly. Samarcand might be taken as to all intents and purposes the extreme point of Russian advance towards British India on the Afghanistan side for some time to come. Their farthest point of advance towards British India, on the side of Eastern Turkestan, was a small detached fort on the Naryn—that was, on the head waters of the great Jaxartes, far away from any support, so far away as really not to be an advanced post, in the ordinary sense, at all. The whole independent part of the khanate of Khokan lay between these points of advance, and in addition there was a huge mountain knot of barely peopled country. The idea of an invasion of British India by Russia was thus so preposterous that he could not for a moment entertain it. As to Shere Ali, a friend had said to him, "I am sorry you have given that money to the Ameer; you are only buying the air." Well, if the transaction were to be looked upon as one of sale and purchase, his friend was quite right, but that was just what it was not. The Government did not dream of erecting Shere Ali into a bulwark against Russia or against anybody else. Nature had planted bulwarks enough there in all conscience. What was wanted was a quiet Afghanistan, just as they wanted a quiet Burmah. The Government wished to stimulate commerce round the whole of the land and sea frontier, and it did not at all suit to have one of their trade gates locked up by a burning house, the cellars of which were known to be full of highly explosive compounds. They wanted Shere Ali to be strong for the suppression of lawlessness, and rich, if possible, into the bargain. They wanted no assistance except that which a civilised government must always derive from being known to exercise a pacifying and semi-civilising influence around its own borders. The policy of the Government with reference to Central Asia might be thus summed up:—First, they desired to live on the best possible terms with all their neighbours. Secondly, they intended to strengthen, in every possible way, our north-western frontier; they intended to make, and were making, Kurrachee as good a port as modern engineering science could make it; they looked forward to the completion, at no very distant period, of the missing line of railway in the Indus valley: they were already pushing the railway on towards Peshawur. Thirdly, they meant to give every reasonable encouragement to the extension of trade with Central Asia, and the exploration of the countries to the north-west as well as to the north-east and east of our dominions. Lastly, they were firmly persuaded that if we could believe in the possibility of any danger from the side of Central Asia threatening us in India, our best protection lay in the good government of India.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE highly approved the discussion, for there ought to be no mystery about our policy in this matter, which was not Central Asian, but purely Indian. We should keep out of all entangling alliances, and particularly out of the embroil of Afghan politics; but the advances of Russia had been forced on her by the anarchy of the States in front, and to strengthen Afghanistan would be to deprive Russia of any temptation to interfere in its affairs. Mr. GLADSTONE, in summing up the discussion, declared that Lord Mayo's interview with Shere Ali involved nothing in the nature of an engagement, and also that Russia had expressed an opinion that Afghanistan should be regarded as a neutral zone between her own and British influence.

## THE LADIES' GALLERY.

After this there followed a conversation which excited much merriment, arising out of a motion by Mr. HIBBERT for the removal of the grating before the Ladies' Gallery. He was supported by two young members, Mr. A. JOHNSTON and Mr. H. B. SAMUELSON. Mr. BELMONT HOPE believed the ladies would prefer that it should remain, because it allowed them to have rational intellectual entertainment in morning dresses and bonnets at their ease, without having to array themselves for the occasion, and free from the molestation of impudent glances.

Mr. LAYARD remarked that out of 200 ladies he had consulted only two were in favour of removing the grating, and he read a letter from a lady, a constant attendant, giving some strong reasons against the change. She said that the grating enabled them "to sit as they like, to talk together, to hang up their shawls and bonnets, and dress as they please." Then when a bore rose (she begged Mr. Layard's pardon for hinting at the existence of such people in the House of Commons) they can leave the gallery unobserved in the middle of dull speeches, which they would otherwise be compelled to sit out

patiently, especially if the orator were an acquaintance, and had obtained seats for them. Last, not least, she says, "Do you not think that a good many ill-natured remarks and suppositions are made impossible by the interposition of this objectionable grating? Who can say now that Mr. —— said so and so because Lady —— was in the gallery, or that Sir —— always stammers and breaks down when Miss —— is present?" Mr. Layard, however, admitted that the Ladies' Gallery required improvement; and during the recess he promised to consider how this could be done, upon which Mr. HIBBERT withdrew the motion.

The circumstances of a recent Protestant meeting at Enniskillen, the conviction of Colonel Knox for hard riding in the Park, and the propriety of giving an early day to Lord Bury to bring the condition of New Zealand before the House, were under discussion for some time; and at half-past one it was proposed to go into Committee on the Dublin Freemen's Commission Bill. Mr. R. N. FOWLER, however, and other members objected, and Mr. GLADSTONE yielded to a motion to adjourn the debate.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to two o'clock.

On Monday Mr. FORTESCUE, in reply to Sir T. BATESON, declined to pledge the Government to remove the "proclamations" from Dundalk, Drogheda, and Londonderry.

The Trades Unions Bill was withdrawn by Mr. MUNDELLA, in consequence of the Home Secretary having undertaken to bring in a bill to protect the funds of those societies.

Mr. NEWDEGATE gave notice of a vote of censure on the Home Secretary for his interference with Mr. Murphy's lectures.

Mr. OTWAY, in reply to a question, said that by the terms of cession to M. Leopold, the vessels of all nations would be entitled to use the Suez Canal upon an equal footing.

The HOME SECRETARY, in reply to a question, expressed the opinion that if it were possible to deprive nitro-glycerine of its explosive property during transit, it ought to be done, and if not, its transit ought to be absolutely prohibited.

Mr. LAYARD gave Mr. Goldney some explanations as to the plans and estimates for the new public offices, and Mr. W. LOWTHIAN called attention to the grievances of unpaid attachés, concluding with a resolution asserting their title to a remuneration equal to that paid to junior clerks in the Foreign Office. But he did not press it.

In Committee of Supply, some progress was made with the Civil Service Estimates under Class 2 (expenses of public departments). There was, as usual, much discussion about the expense of printing in connection with the two Houses of Parliament, and Mr. Alderman Lux made a determined endeavour to put an end to the system of giving public money to be run for as "Queen's Plates," but his proposal to reduce a Scotch vote by the sum granted for that purpose was rejected by a majority of 118, 191 to 73.

## SCOTCH EDUCATION BILL.

The LORD ADVOCATE moved the second reading of the Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill, which has been discussed and considerably amended in the Lords, and in the latter part of a long speech he explained how the Government proposed to deal with these amendments. As to the central authority, he suggested the creation of a Central Board, on which the law officers would sit *as officio*; and, with regard to the local authority and the making of grants, the Government would ask the House to revert to the original form of the bill, reserving on the latter point the power to certify for special grants. On other points the Lord Advocate reserved himself for the committee, requesting that the discussion might be postponed until that stage.

A prolonged conversation followed the motion to read the bill a second time, mainly confined to the question of a Central Board, which Dr. PLAYFAIR decidedly approved, while Mr. M'LAUREN declared that Scotland was disgusted with this mode of administration, and Sir R. ANSTRUTHER maintained that if a Board were created it should be represented in Parliament. Ultimately the bill was read a second time.

The Irish Church Bill was brought down from the Lords, and Mr. GLADSTONE fixed Thursday for the consideration of the Lords' amendments.

Several bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at a quarter past two o'clock.

The cricket-match between Eton and Harrow at Lord's ended on Saturday. Eton won by an innings and nineteen runs.

## MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.

The success of the present entertainment at the Royal Gallery of Illustration has been tested by more than 100 representations; and "No Cards" and "Cox and Box," although in the sixteenth week of their existence, are as popular as ever. The present season is drawing to a close, and those who seek refinement with humour, and the enjoyment of delightful music, should not let the opportunity slip by of visiting one of the best entertainments we have had for many years. Mr. and Mrs. German Reed have seldom been seen to greater advantage than in Mr. Gilbert's smart little piece; and we doubt if Mr. Morton's original farce, without Mr. Sullivan's charming accompaniment, was ever more humorously portrayed, and created a greater amount of laughter than "Cox and Box," at the Gallery of Illustration, in the hands of Mr. German Reed, Mr. Arthur Cecil, and Mr. F. Seymour.

## Court, Official, and Personal News.

Six gentlemen were knighted on Friday by her Majesty at Windsor—Mr. William Tite, Mr. Thomas Duffus Hardy, Mr. James Meek, Mr. Peter Coats, Mr. Joseph Heron, and Mr. Richard Davis Hanson, late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia. Sir Andrew Buchanan, G.C.B., had an audience of the Queen, on returning to his post at St. Petersburg, and Mr. Charles Alison, C.B., Minister at the Court of Persia, had an audience of her Majesty on his return from Persia.

The Queen has contributed 100*l.* towards the funds of Mrs. Gladstone's Convalescent Home, and has presented for the use of its inmates a copy of her Journal with an autograph inscription.

The Queen attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel at Windsor. The Rev. Francis Pigoe, M.A., incumbent of St. Philip's Chapel, Regent-street, preached the sermon.

The *Court Journal* says the intended departure of the Queen for Osborne has been given up, and other arrangements have been made. At present it is understood that her Majesty will not visit Osborne before leaving for Scotland, but about the 16th of this month will proceed to Claremont, and is expected to remain there for a short time.

The new docks at Lynn were opened on Wednesday by the Prince and Princess of Wales. The dock company, the municipality, and the townspeople united in giving their Royal Highnesses an enthusiastic reception.

It is said the Prince and Princess of Wales are going to Switzerland in the autumn.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the marriage of Viscount Downe with the Lady Cecilia Molyneux on Monday morning, and also at the breakfast at the Earl of Seston's residence in Belgrave-square. In the evening the Prince and Princess were present at a ball given by Lord and Lady Rendlesham.

The Archduke Rainer and the Archduchess Marie visited her Majesty on Monday at Windsor Castle.

The election of a Scotch representative peer took place at Holyrood Palace on Wednesday. The Earl of Kellie was unanimously chosen.

It is reported that the Government contemplates the early introduction of some scheme to abolish, or at least greatly modify, the purchase system in the army.

The *Times* understands that the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1861 at their last meeting decided to hold "a series of annual international exhibitions of select works of fine and industrial art and scientific inventions at Kensington." The first exhibition, it is added, is fixed for 1871, and as respects industrial works will consist of only three classes.

The *Irish Times* is enabled to state that important changes will be made early next session in reference to the stamps of newspapers and their transmission through the medium of the Post Office. The stamp, whether impressed or affixed, will be reduced from one penny to a halfpenny, and the latter sum will suffice for any weight, but will not avail for more than one transmission by post.

The *Observer* says that Mr. Bright and Mr. Forster have withdrawn their resignations in connection with the Reform Club, and that an alteration will be proposed in the rules to prevent the recurrence of such an incident as that which led to the resignations.

The Liberal party contemplate forming a Junior Reform Club, which will bear the same relation to the Reform that the Junior Carlton does to the Carlton.

Mr. Musgrave, Governor of Newfoundland, is to be appointed Governor of British Columbia, in succession to the late Mr. Seymour.

The directors of the Bradford Mechanics' Institute have resolved to invite Mr. Gladstone to lay the foundation-stone of their new institute in the autumn.

The result of the Matriculation examination of the University of London has been published. Its severity may be settled from the fact that out of 560 candidates, only 216 passed.

The thirteenth annual exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society will open at Manchester on Friday, and will next week be honoured with the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales, for whose reception great preparations are being made.

Mr. Hepworth Dixon is about to leave England on a long tour through Russia. It is understood that he will not return to the editorial chair of the *Athenaeum*.

In reply to a deputation which pressed for an alteration in the Revised Code, in order to meet the necessities of rural schools, Mr. Forster on Friday stated that no change could be made this year. Next session the Government hoped to introduce a bill dealing with the whole question of education.

The petition against the return of Mr. Seely, jun., for Nottingham, is to be heard at Nottingham on Thursday, the 20th inst., before Mr. Baron Martin.

**MAKING OFF WITH A VELOCIPED.**—Two young men called at the scale and velocipedes works of Mr. Gilman, Wolverhampton, on Friday, and represented that they wanted to buy a dozen bicycles. They looked at some in stock, and one of the young men said that he should like to try one for a few minutes, to which no objection was offered. He took it out, and being an expert hand with the article, he was out of sight on it in a minute. He was afterwards seen to go to the High Level Station, and, by the 1.35 p.m. train to Manchester, with the bicycle in his possession, and was not seen in Wolverhampton again.

## Miscellaneous News.

**GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, N.**—During the past week 1,472 applications have been attended to, including those of 479 new patients.

**THE PARIS SOCIETY OF ARTS** have just awarded a gold medal to our countryman, Mr. George Borwick, for his invaluable baking and pastry powder. This is the second gold medal awarded to him by our French neighbours.

**THE COTTON TRADE.**—The prospects of the cotton trade in Preston and the neighbourhood are exceedingly gloomy. Affairs are now more stagnant than they have been for more than thirty years, and in the general business of the town very great depression exists.

**PROTECTION OF TRADES UNIONS.**—At a conference of gentlemen interested in the settlement of the trades union question, held on Saturday in the Temple, a bill was framed containing one clause, punishing embezzlement of the funds of the societies, and a resolution was passed to hand it to Mr. Rathbone, M.P., for introduction at an early date into the House of Commons for passage this session.

**THE PROJECTED NEW POST OFFICE.**—On Thursday night the House of Commons voted the sum of ninety thousand and odd pounds for the rebuilding and repairing of St. Martin's-le-Grand. In answer to an inquiry on the subject, Mr. Layard stated that it was the intention of the Government to build a new Post Office opposite the present edifice in Aldersgate-street, and to employ both buildings for postal purposes.

**EARTHQUAKES.**—About five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon a smart shock of earthquake was felt in the village of Comrie and neighbourhood. The tremor of the earth was scarcely perceptible, and, as usual, the shock apparently came from the southwest and proceeded to the north-east. Several slight shocks during the night have been felt since Wednesday, and on all occasions the shocks were accompanied with a noise resembling a railway-train or distant thunder. It is a remarkable fact that for a series of years shocks of earthquake have been felt in the month of July, but the strange phenomenon occurs frequently at other seasons.—*Sootsmen*.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INCOMES.**—The 680,429*l.* expended from the Parliamentary grant for education in Great Britain in the year ending the 31st of March, 1868, was applied as follows:—To schools connected with the Church of England, 387,134*l.*; with the British and Foreign School Society, 66,017*l.*; Wesleyan schools, 32,611*l.*; Roman Catholic schools in England, 29,751*l.*; and in Scotland 3,161*l.*; schools connected with the Established Church of Scotland, 48,572*l.*; with the Free Church of Scotland, 28,366*l.*; with the Episcopal Church in Scotland, 3,717*l.*; parochial union schools in England, 120*l.*; expenses of administration of the grant and inspection, 80,979*l.* A return stating for the year ending August 31, 1868, the actual income of 8,937 schools in Great Britain receiving annual grants from the Parliamentary vote, and having an average attendance of 1,197,975*s.*, shows that they have received the largest item of their income, 508,772*l.*, from the school pence; from the Government, 484,010*l.*; from voluntary contributions (the schools having 194,745 subscribers), 443,523*l.*; 66,820*l.* from endowments, and 43,108*l.* from various sources, brought the whole income of the year to 1,546,932*l.* The expenditure rather exceeded that amount, and averaged 17*s.* 11*d.* per scholar. This statement appears to include evening schools as well as day schools—such schools receiving annual grants as have sent sufficient returns of income and expenditure.

**DREAMERS' EXPERIENCES.**—Another meeting of the committee of the Dialectical Society which is investigating "spiritual manifestations," took place on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of receiving evidence on the subject of apparitions, dreams, and other phenomena of that kind. The Master of Lindsay said that on one occasion he saw the apparition of Mr. Home's late wife when sleeping in the same room with Mr. Home; the next day he saw, in an album, a photograph of the lady, and recognised the features as those he had seen the night previous. As to foretelling, he remembered that a friend at Rome, when he was there, one day advised him to play on three particular numbers that evening. He declined. His friend said he had dreamed those numbers would win, and played for a small sum on those numbers, and won. A Mr. Rowcroft stated that he attended a *seance* last autumn, and among other extraordinary phenomena he had seen a spirit hand moving the keys of an accordion, and heard "most brilliant music produced, no human hand being near the instrument"; that the family commenced a hymn tune, "but the key being too low, the instrument, in a gentle tone, gave the true pitch. The family then sang three verses, the spirit playing in perfect time and tune on the accordion." Mr. J. Jones, of Enmore Park, said that he had scores of times, in the presence of many persons, been touched by spiritual beings; "that the sensation was like that which would be felt by the pressure of a glove filled with air; that he had often seen the form of a hand rise between the table and the cloth; that he had felt them, and on one occasion it dissolved while he was vigorously pressing it." A medical gentleman stated that a friend of his in the same profession called on a lady patient, who said, "Do you believe in dreams? If so, last night I dreamt that the winner of the Derby would be No. 19 on the racing card."

The doctor made inquiry, found No. 19 was "nowhere"; 20 to 1 against it; took the bets, and cleared 2,000*l.* Another gentleman said that when his late wife was ill, early in March, he heard a voice, as if in the centre of his head, repeating at short intervals, 'The 7th, the 7th.' The sound was clear, like a silver bell." Considering it a prediction as to the "fatal crisis day" of his wife, he told the three attendants that the crisis day would be on the 7th of April, and requested them to remember the date. On the morning of that day, when his wife was leaning on the breast of one of her sons, she died.

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—The rifle-shooting continues at Wimbledon. On Thursday the match came off between the Lords and the Commons. The representatives of the Peers were the Duke of Abercorn, Earl Spencer, Denbigh, Ducie, and Dunmore, and Lords Cloncurry and Dufferin. The Commoners were the Marquis of Lorne, Lord Echo, Sir P. G. Egerton, Mr. Wells, Mr. M. A. Bass, Mr. Fordyce, and Mr. Malcolm. The contest, at ranges of 200 and 500 yards, resulted in a victory for the Commons by 353 to 315 points. Corporal Peake, of the 6th Lancashire Volunteers, who won the Prince of Wales's prize of 100*l.* on Monday, has been disqualified from further competition at Wimbledon during the present meeting. He discharged a rifle loaded with ball-cartridge within the camp on Wednesday evening, to the imminent danger of life. Corporal Peake is a singularly unfortunate man. He won the Queen's Prize last year, and was then disqualified for not having used the regulation ammunition. The shooting on Saturday disposed of the "International Enfield Challenge Trophy" as follows:—England, 1,112; Scotland, 1,092; Ireland, 1,037. But the greatest of the international matches is that for the "Echo Challenge Shield," to be shot for by eight competitors from each of the three nations. The weather has been remarkably fine and the camp crowded with visitors. On Saturday Lord Echo, the president of the Council, was disqualified for having a "pull of trigger" lighter than that prescribed by the regulations. On Sunday the Bishop of Peterborough preached in the camp to a crowded congregation.

**THE LAYING OF THE FRENCH ATLANTIC CABLE** is virtually completed. The *Times* says the Great Eastern will probably remain at St. Pierre till the end of this week to put on the paddle floats which were removed before she started, and to put out those she has in now to the full circumference of the wheels. Then, having transhipped all the staff of engineers and electricians on board the William Cory, the great ship returns at once to England, where she is expected at the end of the month, to take in the Anglo-Indian cable. In the meantime the staff, with the William Cory, will proceed to lay about 184 miles of cable from St. Pierre towards Boston. In this journey she will be accompanied by the Scanderis and the Chiltern. This length of cable will take the William Cory over water varying in depth from 150 to 200 or 250 fathoms, past Cape Breton to the Gut of Canso. The staff will then again be transferred to the Scanderis, which will lay 450 more miles of intermediate line of extra thickness. This will stretch from the Gut of Canso to the edge of the Brown Bank, south of Cape Table, and will be laid in water of not less than 100 fathoms: the Chiltern then in turn takes the staff and lays the remainder from Brown Bank to Boston, a distance of about 150 miles, and this completes the St. Pierre and Boston section, and then all is done. Everything is expected to be completed by the end of this month, after which the whole line must remain in perfect order for thirty-one days before it is formally taken over by the French company, which then becomes solely responsible for its working and maintenance. The cable had to be cut and buoyed on Monday in consequence of a dense fog.

**THE CROSSLEY ORPHAN HOME AND SCHOOL.**—The fifth annual meeting of the Crossley Orphan Home and School—an institution founded by the munificent liberality of the family whose name it bears—was held on Wednesday, Mr. John Crossley in the chair. There were also present the Venerable Archdeacon Musgrave, D.D., Sir F. Crossley, Bart., M.P., and a large number of clergymen and gentlemen. An interesting report was read, containing a history of the origin and subsequent operations of the home. From this it appeared that the institution was opened in January, 1864, when six boys only were admitted; but the number has gradually increased until it at present reaches 122 boys and 66 girls, of whom 128 are natives of Yorkshire (preference being given to those born in the county), and 50 natives of Halifax. In addition to building and furnishing the home, the founders have provided an endowment of £3,000 for maintenance and education. With their present income, however, they are able to receive only 190 children, although accommodation has been provided for 400, and the report pointed out that any persons sympathising with the founders in their benevolent efforts to relieve the widow and provide for the fatherless, may do it by benefactions and bequests to enable the founders more freely than they are at present able, to meet the urgent cases constantly arising. The chairman delivered the various prizes and certificates to the successful scholars, who previously, at his request, announced to the company the towns and cities from whence they had come, viz., London, Halifax, Leeds, Rochdale, Bradford, Liverpool, Cheltenham, Cleckheaton, Boston, Tavistock, Selby, and Leek. The proceedings concluded with a musical performance by the senior singing class, conducted on the Tonic Sol-fa principle by Mr. C.

Needham, of Halifax. The company were then invited to inspect the various departments of the institution, of which invitation large numbers availed themselves, and were conducted through the building from the extensive cellars and kitchens to the lofty and well-ventilated dormitories.

**AN ARISTOCRATIC FRACAS.**—Lord Carington appeared at Marlborough-street on Wednesday to answer a charge of assault preferred against him by Mr. Grenville Murray. Mr. Murray had applied for two summonses; one for a common assault, and the other for an offence at common law, provoking him to fight a duel. Mr. Murray, on being called, was subjected to a cross-examination by Mr. Giffard that appeared to try his temper severely. He declined to answer the question whether he had not a paper called the *Queen's Messenger*. To the question whether he wrote a certain article—the one reflecting on Lord Carington—he answered "No." A number of letters, articles in manuscript, and a corrected proof of an article, were then shown to the witness, but he declined to say whether they were in his handwriting. He admitted that he had written some articles in the *Queen's Messenger*, but said he would rather have cut off his right hand than have written others. Lord Carington was ultimately bound over to keep the peace in reference to the first summons, and committed for trial on the second one. He was admitted to bail, himself in 4,000*l.*, and two sureties—the Duke of Beaufort and Lord Colville—in the same sum. During the proceedings a disgraceful scuffle took place in court for the possession of the box of papers which Mr. Grenville Murray alleges to have been stolen from him. Blows were freely dealt on both sides; the magistrate's table was nearly overthrown; and it took a dozen policemen to part the combatants and restore order. Mr. D'Eyncourt ordered the court to be cleared, but the row became so serious, and approached so alarmingly near the seat of justice, that he left the court. When something like order was restored, the court appeared a little wreck. Chairs were broken as well as inkstands, the ink spilt over the desks, and several hats trodden out of shape. On Thursday, at the same court, Colonel Archibald Campbell was charged with disorderly conduct, and also with assaulting William Boden, the messenger of the court. His defence was that he mistook the messenger for one of the attacking party, and that in seizing him he was actuated by a desire to support the authorities. At Mr. Knox's suggestion, Colonel Campbell offered, and the plaintiff accepted, an apology. It is singular that, while several arrests were made, the only man who was detained in custody proved to be acting from exemplary motives. The committee of the Conservative Club, considering Mr. Grenville Murray's explanation to be unsatisfactory, and being still less satisfied by the proceedings at Marlborough-street Police-court, are about to hold a general meeting, to take the whole subject into consideration.

### Crimes and Casualties.

On Sunday evening, as Captain Lambert, of Castle Lambert, near Athenry, county Galway, was close to his residence, he was fired at five times and dangerously wounded. Several of the shots took effect. The supposed assassin, a letter-carrier named Barrett, in the General Post Office, London, and son of a lately evicted tenant, was arrested in the up train to Dublin, and identified by Captain Lambert. He fired from a revolver. It is many years since a similar outrage took place in the county. It is hoped that Captain Lambert will recover.

An extraordinary poisoning case is causing considerable excitement in West Cornwall. On Friday morning Mr. Huddy, farmer, of Tredinnick, was suddenly taken ill soon after he had dressed himself, and appeared to be wandering in his mind. A surgeon was sent for, and by the time he arrived Miss Huddy was seized in a similar manner. Another sister, who was at Tregony, went to wait upon her brother and sister, but had not been long in the house when she too became ill. A Mrs. Crago, who is also a sister to Mr. Huddy, Mrs. Elliott, a farmer's wife, who came to render assistance to the sick family, three other persons who came to nurse them, and a servant-man, making nine persons in all, were soon similarly attacked. The medical man who was first called in thought that it was an outbreak of Asiatic cholera, but Dr. Barham, of Truro, on his arrival, at once pronounced it to be a decided case of poisoning. Upon inquiry it was found that all the sufferers had eaten of a batch of bread baked on Thursday. Miss Huddy herself made the bread, assisted by a servant-girl (Pill) who was under notice to leave. Dr. Barham sent for the girl, and told her to bring him the remaining loaf of bread, but she stated that she could not find it, and nothing has since been seen of it. Everyone who eat any food in the house was taken ill, except the girl Pill, but all are said to be recovering.

Bathing fatalities have been unusually numerous during the past week. Three lives have been lost at Ennerdale Lake, Cumberland, one at Southport, and a few days ago three young ladies, while bathing at Broadstairs, ventured out of their depth, and were with difficulty rescued. There is a very sad story from South Wales. Miss Maty Colston, the daughter of the Rev. J. R. Colston, principal of Thistleboon House Academy, was drowned on Tuesday while bathing in Langland Bay, at the Mumbles. Miss Colston, who was bathing with her sister, was seen floating away out to sea, but as it was known

that she was a good swimmer little or no notice was taken of the circumstance, until it was discovered that she was at least 400 yards from the beach, and was still floating out seaward. Three gentlemen swam to her assistance, and one of them, a very powerful swimmer, struck out swiftly towards the young lady, but before he reached her she went down, when almost within his grasp. He dived instantly, and continued his search till he could hold out no longer, and had barely strength left to reach the shore, where he arrived in an exhausted state. The body of the young lady was not recovered.

A murder, the evident result of a public-house quarrel, has been committed at Uxbridge. Two young men, named Murray and Redrup, had been drinking together, when a slight disagreement took place between them. They, however, appear to have gone together to Murray's lodgings, and there, shortly afterwards, Redrup was found with his throat cut. Murray, who at once gave himself up to the police, was brought before the magistrates and remanded for the result of the coroner's inquest. In the same locality, two boys were engaged in a trivial quarrel, when one of them, named Parr, threw a long pointed knife at his companion. The aim proved a deadly one, and the boy died within an hour. At the coroner's inquest a verdict of manslaughter was returned against Parr, who is only eleven years of age.

### Gleanings.

Prince Metternich defines a velocipedestrian as a "fool upon rollers."

The potato disease has made its appearance in the neighbourhood of Devizes.

The Faraday memorial is to take the shape of a monument in St. Paul's.

A coloured man has died at Wilmington, North Carolina, from the effects of a spider's bite.

About 250 foreign beasts were stopped at Thames Haven and Brown's wharves, on Monday, on account of disease.

Two thousand five hundred ladies have pledged themselves not to shop after two o'clock on Saturdays.

The large diamond of 83*1/2* carats, lately discovered at the Cape, reached London on Wednesday, consigned to Messrs. Joseph Mosenthal and Co.

Old lady (picking up a discarded "fashionable bonnet") : "Dear, dear! Here's some poor thing lost her respirator!"

Notice is given that in consequence of the Thames Tunnel being required for the East London Railway works, it will be closed for traffic on and after the 21st inst.

A new process of preserving wood by means of borax is announced. The wood, it is said, can be made impermeable to water by dissolving some shellac in the solution of borax.

The son of a Western clergyman excused himself for a pack of cards which fell from his pocket during his valedictory, by saying that he had on his father's coat.

In Chicago husbands are said to be so fearful of curtain lectures, that they add to their announcement of future movements the letters "W. P.", which mean "wife permitting."

An American paper says that a double-headed negro is on his way from the South to give exhibitions. He goes on the principle of the old proverb that "two heads are better than one."

A cook in New York has given notice to the family in which she is employed that she has made up her mind to go to Newport this summer, and if the family will go there she will stay with them; otherwise she must leave.

A good old Quaker lady, after listening to the extravagant yarn of a shopkeeper as long as her patience would allow, said to him, "Friend, what a pity it is a sin to lie, when it seems so necessary to thy happiness!"

**BLOWING UP.**—A little girl, on hearing her mother say that she intended to go to a ball, and have her dress trimmed with "bugles," innocently inquired if the bugles would blow up while she danced. "Oh, no," said the mother, "your father will do that when he discovers I have bought them."

**THE FORCE OF HABIT.**—At a church in Essex lately, the clerk feeling unwell, asked his friend, the railway porter, to take his place for a Sunday. He did so, but being worn out with night work, fell asleep. When the hymn was announced, a neighbour gave him a nudge, upon which he started up, rubbing his eyes, and called out, "Change here for Elmswell, Thurston, and Bury!"—*Musical Standard*.

**RELICS OF ROBINSON CRUSOE.**—The Antiquarian Society (of Scotland) have just received a donation to their museum of two interesting articles, which cannot fail to be attractive, especially to juvenile visitors, and all who have read Defoe's world-wide story of "Robinson Crusoe." The relics consist of the sea-chest and a carved cocoa-nut cup, which were the property of Alexander Selkirk, the prototype of Robinson Crusoe. These were with him on his solitary residence on Juan Fernandez, and were brought home with him when taken off the island by Captain Woodes Rogers.—*Scotsman*.

**PIGEON ENGLISH.**—In an American book, entitled "China and the Chinese," published by Sampson Low and Co., the following amusing instance is given of the dialect spoken by the native Chinese in their intercourse with foreigners. "I saw," says the author, "a translation by an Englishman of the address familiar to most schoolboys, 'My name is Norval; on the Grampian Hills my father feeds his

flock, &c.,' a few sentences of the beginning of which may be given by way of illustration, as follows:—'My name b'long Norval. Top side Keh-lam-pian hill; my father chow chow he sheep.' Hardly a word of the next sentence, 'A frugal swain, whose constant care is to increase his store,' has any equivalent in this poverty-stricken tongue, so a free translation is made: 'My fader very small heartee man—too much likee dat piecie dolla.'

**THE RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY SPEAKING.**—Mr. Hughes has, it would seem, spoken so much at public meetings on the subject of trades unions that he quite forgot himself when, in the House of Commons, for instance, instead of addressing the Speaker as "Sir," he kept repeating the word "gentlemen," until, at length, the Speaker (who is never very quick in detecting breaches of order) was obliged to interfere. "The hon. gentleman must remember that he is addressing the House of Commons," was the mild reproof of "the first gentleman in the land," at which poor Mr. Hughes coloured up, looked rather foolish, stammered a little, and resumed his speech with "Well, gentlemen!" This, of course, occasioned a burst of laughter, in which Mr. Plimsoll, the member for Derby, heartily joined, although he himself, later in the debate, offended in the same manner.—"Inside the House," in the *Globe*.

**THE BONNET BILL OF A PRINCESS.**—Will British husbands who are afflicted by the length of uxorial milliners' bills gather any comfort from hearing that there are husbands in other lands as ill-fated as they? The dressmaker's account which the Princess of Metternich submitted to her husband last week, before leaving Paris, was 112,000 francs (4,480*l.*) Unlike Prince Bariatinski, who last month flatly refused to pay 10,000 francs (400*l.*) for a "petite toilette de matin en crêpe de Chine," his Excellency the Austrian Ambassador opened his purse like a prince. Madame la Princesse then produced the bonnet bill, which amounted to 2,250 francs (330*l.*) This his Excellency paid again, remarking this time, with exemplary resignation, "My dear, I have noticed that, in proportion as your bonnets diminish in size, the price of them increases. One of these mornings we shall be having the milliner bringing nothing but the bill."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

**EXPENSIVE FRIPPERY.**—Some curious devices were resorted to at M. Oppenheim's ball (the splendour of which is still the talk of Paris) to amuse the Viceroy. New figures were invented for the after-supper cotillon. Large sealed envelopes were distributed among the ladies, who opening them found grotesque headdresses inside, with which they were expected to crown their partners. Crackers containing pieces of fancy costume were also pulled between the figures of one of the dances, and the gentlemen had to wear the finery which fell to their share. In what was called the steeple-chase dance the ladies received fans bearing the names of well-known race-horses, and the gentlemen cards similarly inscribed. At a signal the music struck up, and each gentleman hastened to discover the lady on whose fan was written the same name as on his card. Another fantastic novelty was the distribution of hoops among the gentlemen, one to each six. The six advanced to a lady, carrying their hoop between them, and on touching a spring it suddenly imprisoned the one destined to be the lady's partner. Both the Oriental visitors and the native visitors are said to have been much amused by these performances.

**THE LATE REV. ROBERT HALL AND HIS GUESTS.**—In a letter to the *Leicester Chronicle*, the Rev. J. B. Mursell gives the following authentic version of an unpublished anecdote of Robert Hall while residing in that town:—The late Lord Roden, who was well known as an attached and devout member of the Church of England, on arriving at Leicester on Saturday, took up his quarters at the Three Crowns Hotel, where he rested for the Sabbath. After a morning service held in the Harvey-lane Chapel, Mr. Hall received a note from Lord Roden, intimating the pleasure he had experienced in attending Divine worship in the above-named place, and that he hoped to do so again in the evening of the day, at the same time asking the favour of the preacher's company to sup with him at its close. Mr. Hall replied to this very courteous invitation that he never left home on Sunday nights, but that he should feel highly honoured if his lordship would take "bread and cheese" with him at his house. This invitation was readily accepted. Mr. Hall, who, after the labours of the day, delighted in such companionship as would divert his mind without taxing his energies, frequently received Thomas Newcombe, a venerable, thoughtful, and exemplary man, who moved in the lowlier walks of life, well known to some now living as a poor stockinger residing on the London-road. On the evening when the preacher was honoured with the presence of his distinguished guest, after some delay Mrs. Hall entered the room and intimated that supper was quite ready, when Mr. Hall said, "Yes; but where is friend Newcombe, my dear?"—whom Mrs. Hall had, with great good feeling, retained in another apartment. After some time Mrs. H. made a fresh attempt, and re-entering, reminded her husband that the supper had been waiting a long time. "But where's friend Newcombe?" was the rejoinder; "we can't go to supper without him"; and turning to Lord Roden, Mr. H. said, "It's Thomas Newcombe, my lord. I hope you are in no hurry. I daresay he won't be long." On which the lady of the house was obliged to uncage her captive, who, on entering the room, bent down with age, was introduced to Lord Roden as a friend of Mr. Hall's, and was received with that courtesy—(not, I dare say, unaccompanied with a sense of the grotesque)—which gentlemanly breeding could not fail to offer. The Preacher, the Peer, and the Stockinger met at a common repast.

## Literature.

## DR. BRADY'S IRISH CHURCH ESSAYS.\*

An account of some of the admirable essays which are collected together in this volume has already appeared in this journal. As he has been the most voluminous so also has Dr. Brady been the most original writer upon the Irish Church question. This is partly because of the freshness of his own mind, but partly also because of the materials which he has collected, which, though old to old scholars, are very new to modern readers. Dr. Brady also has the great advantage of writing from within the Church. He is a beneficed clergyman of the institution which is to be disestablished and disendowed, yet he writes with as much ardour as vigour in favour of its disestablishment and disendowment.

All these essays are valuable contributions to the questions upon which they treat, but it strikes us that their value increases as the writer goes on. Their natural history we take to be that the writer has for the most part worked up his materials as he has found them. They therefore want unity of plan, and would have been more effective if the materials had been re-arranged and the whole work recast. But the information is as striking as the comment is honest. We have in the essays, considered as a whole, a fair statement of the history of "the relations of England with Ireland." The most valuable part of this history is the section which is devoted to a demonstration of the share in legislation taken by the prelates of the Establishment. Bishop Mant refers to this in his "History," and a specific reference to it was also made in a series of articles which recently appeared in these columns, in which it was affirmed that all the worst penal laws passed by the Irish Parliament were passed at the instigation of and by the votes of the Irish bishops. In the preface to these essays, Dr. Brady says:—"It is almost unnecessary to point out either the injury done to religion itself, or the enormous practical evils, and the dreadful individual sufferings, wholly independent of sentimental grievances, which were entailed upon the people of Ireland by the laws intended chiefly to trample out their faith." It is then pointed out that it was the penal legislation concerning land which has been the cause of the nation's poverty and physical distress, and as Dr. Brady adds, "The laws which prohibited education would have sufficed of themselves, even if Ireland's commerce had never been directly attacked, to debar Ireland from manufactures and trade, thus leaving agriculture alone as the support of that redundant population which a low standard of comfort and a high standard of morals generate in a country circumstanced like Ireland... Lastly, the policy which estranged Catholics, setting on their brow the alien mark even when they buried their dead sullenly in the desecrated tombs of their fathers, deprived the Irish people of the benefits of local self-government, parochial and municipal, and forced them to regard law as their enemy, not as their protector."

If, however, law was considered as an enemy rather than as a protector, who put upon it that character? The worst laws were passed by the Irish Parliament; what was the predominating power in that Parliament? Dr. Brady carefully discusses this question in the fifth essay in this volume on "Viceroyal Speeches" and Episcopal Votes in the Irish Parliament, from the reign of Charles I. to the Union. He takes as his text the recent declaration of an Irish Prelate that the Church cannot be held responsible for what was done in the past, for the work was the work not of Churchmen, but of politicians. This of course would not clear the bishops, for we should still want to know what were their sympathies, and into which scale they threw their great moral and material influence. But Dr. Brady shows that the Church, and the Church mainly, is to be held responsible for what was done, and for all that terrible history which will for ever be the greatest blot in the annals of England. He points out how the leading prelates were Privy Councillors and Lords Justices, and invariably joined the Government in repressive measures; how they formed the majority of the House of Lords in Queen Anne's reign, when all the worst of the penal laws were passed; how they constituted, also, a majority from 1731 to 1750, when these laws were "continued and intensified in severity." He also says:—

"So far from being the bulwark of Protestantism in

\* Essays on the English State Church in Ireland, By W. MAZIERE BRADY, D.D., &c. (Strahan and Co.)

general, the Establishment regarded the Protestant Dissenters with as much hostility as it showed towards Roman Catholics, the bishops at one time even petitioning for the withdrawal of the tithe—the *Regium Donum*—afforded to Presbyterians. If the manufacturers of Ireland are to be encouraged, or its waste land reclaimed, the claims of the clergy to their tithes rise up in opposing petitions. If mercy and leniency towards a guilty but sword-smitten peasantry are advocated, the names of the prelates are withheld. So, at least, the Parliamentary annals from 1634 to 1800 prove to demonstration."

The history of bishops in Parliament, and of the intrusion of the prelatice element into the Legislature of a kingdom, is mournful enough as respects our own country, but in Ireland it is a history which can only be read with a shuddering aversion. It has always been the case that ecclesiastics entrusted with civil power have abused their power more shamefully, more ignobly, and more inhumanly than any other class, but in Ireland the abuse was as foul as it was unjustifiable. The prelates could do what they liked, and they did what they liked. "Liked." Yes! That is their crime and their condemnation. They liked to persecute; they liked to see a nation being ruined, and their own fortunes built upon the ruins.

What did they do? It takes Dr. Brady, who is a close writer, a hundred pages to give a mere summary of what they did. In 1695 they were in a clear majority, and then the laws for preventing the education of Roman Catholics, and for the suppression of all Roman Catholic schools, were passed. In that year thirteen prelates and twelve lay lords constituted the House which ordered the bill providing that no Papist should inherit a Protestant estate. The Protestant Dissenters Toleration Bill of the same year was thrown out by the bishops, "who had a majority of votes." In 1703 a House of seventeen prelates and fourteen lay peers passed the Act prohibiting Roman Catholic priests from coming into the kingdom. An Act for registering the priests was passed by a House of twelve prelates and nine lay lords. The Act for preventing Roman Catholics from being solicitors was debated and passed in Houses when the majority was always a prelatice majority. In 1709 they again threw out by their votes the Bill for the relief of Protestant Dissenters. But we might go on and fill our columns to the end with nothing but similar statements. There is no exception to them. All through the eighteenth century the prelates acted in this way. And yet they wondered as their successors wonder, how it is that Protestantism can be unpopular in Ireland!

We take this essay to be the most valuable of all the seven in this work. Each, however, is of special worth; and a day, we fancy, will come when Dr. Brady will look upon the service which he has rendered to this controversy as the happiest service of his life.

## BRIEF NOTICES.

*China and the Chinese.* By the Rev. JOHN L. NEVIUS, ten years a missionary in China (Sampson Low, and Co.), is an American importation. Mr. Nevius, during ten years' residence in China as an American missionary, has gathered much general information respecting the inhabitants of that country, which he here sets forth in an interesting manner. A work recently noticed in these columns from the pen of Mr. Doolittle, also a missionary to China, related almost entirely to the social life of the Chinese, their manners and customs. In this volume greater prominence is given to their religion and the state of the country in respect to morality and education. "It has been my design," says the author, "to give a general description of China and the Chinese, rather than detailed information on particular subjects, having special reference to the religious condition and wants of the people, and the character and results of the labours of missionaries." In carrying out this design, Mr. Nevius gives a sketch of the rise and progress of Confucianism, and of other forms of religion prevalent in China. He also institutes a parallelism between the rites of Roman Catholicism of the West and those of Buddhism of the East as practised in China. Speaking of the religion of Confucius, Mr. Nevius says, "It is perhaps not too much to say of him that the system of ethics and morality which he taught is the purest which has ever originated in the history of the world, independent of the divine revelation in the Bible, and that he has exerted a greater influence for good upon our race than any other uninspired sage of antiquity." The education of the young in China, like the religious life of the people, is stereotyped and wanting in elements of progress; "nearly all their textbooks are two thousand years old; and few have any idea of their being changed for the next two thousand years." The Chinese Government, too, "presents to us to-day the same character which it possessed, in the germ, at least, more than three thousand years ago." The reader will look anxiously for signs of the preparedness of the people of that vast empire to embrace the truths of Christianity, and we are much

mistaken if he does not find that Confucius and his disciples have been better pioneers of the Christian faith than those subjects of Christian nations with whom the Chinese have had intercourse. "The Chinese being every day brought into contact with drunken sailors, swearing sea-captains, and unscrupulous traders from the West, new lessons are constantly learned from them in the school of duplicity and immorality." Here is another trouble which the missionary meets with: "The Chinese are all familiar with the fact that foreigners introduced opium into China in opposition to the earnest and persistent remonstrances of the Chinese Government; that out of the opium trade grew the first war with China; and that when the representatives of Christian England urged the Chinese Government to legalise the trade and make it a source of revenue, the Chinese Emperor replied that he would not use as a means of revenue that which brought suffering and misery upon his people." We have found this book both entertaining and instructive.

*Adventures in the Apache Country.* By J. ROSS BROWNE. (Sampson Low and Co.) This again is an American book. We have met Mr. Ross Browne before, and on that occasion felt sorely tempted to characterise his writings with more brevity than courtesy. Mr. Ross Browne, however, supplies us in the course of his narrative with a description of himself which he cannot complain of us for reproducing. Riding in California beside the driver of a stage, "a lurking suspicion took possession of me," he says, "that I was recognised by the driver, Old Charlie; though I took particular pains to join with him in abusing that vile slanderer Ross Browne, whose peep at Washoe had aroused the indignation of every publican on the route. Charlie admitted that he had never read any of this fellow's productions, but he believed him to be the Prince of Liars on general principles; an assertion in which I naturally coincided, with an internal reservation that it was strange how angry it made people to have the truth told about them." It must be confessed, however, that there is a great deal in this book to afford amusement, and that, while it is difficult to understand what method must be adopted to test the veracity of the author in the incidents of his narrative, there is yet a substratum of truth in his representations, which saves it from being an utterly worthless book. There is not much wit in it as a whole, though there are some very characteristic sketches of West country life. The illustrations which are drawn by the author are of the same extravagant character as his writings.

*A Cruise in the Gorgon; or, Eighteen Months on H.M.S. Gorgon, including a Trip up the Zambesi with Dr. Livingstone, by W. CAPE DEVEREUX (Bell and Daldy),* is a substantial looking book, but rather disappointing in its contents. It was not intended for publication, we are told, "but to amuse the author's friends, and to preserve a record of adventures which will ever remain deeply impressed on his memory." Mr. Molyneux, with much distrust and diffidence, complied with the wishes of his friends to have his journal printed, at the same time "expressing his sense of the inadequacy of his work, and his knowledge that an able writer could have made much more of the same material." In our opinion, Mr. Molyneux has made a very good use of his materials. The materials are themselves slight, and furnish no opportunity of writing a narrative of more than very ordinary interest. This book, however, will compare favourably with "A Cruise in the Galata."

From Messrs. Longman and Co. we have an edition for the people of (1) *The Works of Sydney Smith*, (2) *Wit and Wisdom of Sydney Smith*, and (3) *Sydney Smith's Memoir*. So here are the brilliant articles, the witty sayings, and the life story of this great man accessible to almost all book readers. In the volume which contains his essays and speeches, the former contributed with few intervals during a period of twenty-five years to the *Edinburgh Review*, we have quite a repertoire of information on home and foreign politics, and especially on the Catholic question as affected by the legislation, or intended legislation, of the first part of this century. In this volume too (the Works, &c.) are the inimitable "Peter Plymley's Letters," the authorship of which was such a mystery to the Government and people of that day. Some of Sydney Smith's aphorisms are known the world over, and we are glad to see the cheap re-issue of the volume devoted to his more pungent and epigrammatic sentences. We welcome this edition, and rejoice that so many persons who would otherwise be denied the luxury of reading his works will now be able not only to read them, but to keep them on their shelves.

*The French Mastery Manual.* By ALFRED COIGNOU, Professor of the French Language. Second edition (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.) The author of this little work has had long experience in teaching the French language, and is increasingly satisfied of the soundness of the system he adopts. His method is founded on the natural process followed by children in learning foreign languages when associating with foreigners. Rules, exercises, and grammatical details are postponed until the three or four hundred words of which a child's vocabulary exclusively consists have become quite familiar to the ear, and have been employed in a vast variety of combinations. The construction of the language is thus mastered before the grammar. The speaking power of the pupil is therefore on a level with

his real knowledge, and not, as is usually the case, lamentably behind it. We counsel teachers to make themselves acquainted with M. Coignou's very useful book.

## EXTRACTS FROM BOOKS, &amp;c.

VIGOUR OF MIND IN OLD AGE.—The conversation of the celebrated composer Cherubini, at the age of eighty, is said to have been as brilliant as during the meridian of his existence. Gosse composed a *Té Deum* at the age of seventy-eight. Cornille, when seventy years of age, exhibited no decay of intellect, judging from his poetic address to the king. M. de Quensounier, the accomplished poet, at the advanced age of one hundred and sixteen, was full of vivacity, and fully capable of sustaining a lively and intelligent conversation. M. Leroy, of Rambouillet, at the age of one hundred, composed a remarkably beautiful and spirited poem. Abbé Taublet, when speaking of the intellect of Fontenelle when far advanced in life, says, "His intellectual faculties, with the exception of a slight defect of memory, had preserved their integrity in spite of corporeal debility. His thoughts were elevated, his expressions finished, his answers quick and to the point, his reasoning powers accurate and profound." Cardinal de Fleury was Prime Minister of France from the age of seventy to ninety. At the age of eighty Fontenelle asked permission on the ground of physical infirmity, to retire from the post of perpetual secretary of the Academy of Sciences. The Prime Minister refused the request. Three years subsequently, Fontenelle again expressed a wish to resign office. "You are an indolent lazy fellow," writes the Cardinal; "but I suppose we must occasionally indulge such characters."—*Our Own Fireside, for July.*

TATTERSALL'S.—The subscription room at Tattersall's is closed to all except the initiated; and its "price current" governs all the betting transactions within the four seas. In contrast with the Stock Exchange it is a palace. All its appointments are distinguished by an air of luxury and refinement.

Its members, I need not say, are the *élite* of the Turf—peers of Parliament, members of the House of Commons, city bankers, barristers, guardians and journalists, chamberlains of the royal household, and officers of the lord mayor's court. Here, till yesterday, you might see a boy from Eton, the heir to a great name and fine estate, backing his opinion to the tune of fifty thousand pounds, with money borrowed at six hundred per cent. Admiral Rous and Sir Joseph Hawley are state pillars in this aristocratic republic. Lord Derby and Lord Palmerston were in their day as popular at Tattersall's as in the House of Commons, and it was by mixing with English racing men that Napoleon is said to have acquired that thorough command over the play of his features which has given him the title, even with diplomatists, of the *Sphynx*. You can read nothing in the face of a thorough-bred man of the Turf except perfect self-possession, shrewd intellect, and a will of iron: and you may pick those out in the subscription room at a glance from the crowd who are purchasing their experience at the expense of their ancestral oaks, and perhaps of something worse. Here is one of those neophytes of the ring—a companion of princes, the son of a minister of Cabinet rank, with the blood of the eastern emperors in his veins. He is booking a bet of 100 to 1 to a youth with the down still on his cheeks, the son of one of the most illustrious of the Crimean heroes. In the centre of a group of bookmakers and aristocratic legs stands a young man, still, I believe on the sunny side of thirty, who tells you, with the utmost *nonchalance*, that he has just sold an estate to a city man for three hundred thousand pounds, to square up his book and fight the ring. He is the representative of a long line of mailed barons who fought under the walls of Jerusalem, at Cressy, and at Agincourt.—*Chambers's Journal.*

THE OLYMPIAN RELIGION.—During twelve or fourteen hundred years, it was the religion of the most fruitful, the most energetic portions of the human family. It yielded to Christianity alone; and to the Church it yielded with reluctance, summoning up strength in its extreme old age, and only giving way after an intellectual as well as a civil battle, obstinately fought, and lasting for generations. For the greater part of a century after the fall of Constantinople, in the chief centres of a Christian civilisation in many respects degenerated, and an ecclesiastical power too little faithful to its trust, Greek letters and Greek thought once again asserted their strength over the most cultivated minds of Italy, in a manner which testified to the force, and to the magic charm, with which they were imperishably endowed. Even within what may be called our own time, the Olympian religion has exercised a fascination altogether extraordinary over the mind of Goethe, who must be regarded as standing in the very first rank of the great minds of the latest centuries. The Olympian religion, however, owes perhaps as large a share of its triumphs to its depraved accommodations, as to its excellences. Yet an instrument so durable, potent, and elastic, must certainly have had a purpose to serve. Let us consider for a moment what it may have been. We have seen how closely, and in how many ways, it bound humanity and deity together. As regarded matter of duty and virtue, not to speak of that highest form of virtue which is called holiness, this union was effected mainly by lowering the divine element. But as regarded all other functions of our nature, outside the domain of the life to god-ward,

all those functions which are summed up in what Saint Paul calls the flesh and the mind, the psychic and the bodily life, the tendency of the system was to exalt the human element, by proposing a model of beauty, strength, and wisdom, in all their combinations, so elevated, that the effort to attain them required a continual upward strain. It made divinity attainable; and thus it effectually directed the thought and aim of man

Along the line of limitless desire.

Such a scheme of religion, though failing grossly in the government of the passions, and in upholding the standard of moral duties, tended powerfully to produce a lofty self-respect, and a large, free, and varied conception of humanity. It incorporated itself in schemes of notable discipline for mind and body, indeed of a lifelong education; and these habits of mind and action had their marked results (to omit many other greatnesses) in a philosophy, literature, and art, which remain to this day unrivalled or unsurpassed. The sacred fire, indeed, that was to touch the mind and heart of man from above, was in preparation elsewhere. Within the shelter of the hills that stand about Jerusalem, the great Archetype of the spiritual excellence and purification of man was to be produced and matured. But a body, as it were, was to be made ready for this angelic soul. And as when some splendid edifice is to be reared, its diversified materials are brought from this quarter and from that, according as nature and man favour their production, so did the wisdom of God, with slow but ever sure device, cause to ripen amidst the several races best adapted for the work, the several component parts of the noble fabric of a Christian manhood and a Christian civilisation. "The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents: the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts." Every worker was, with or without his knowledge and his will, to contribute to the work. And among them an appropriate part was thus assigned both to the Greek people, and to what I have termed the Olympian religion.—*Mr. Gladstone's Juvenius Mundi. The Gods and Men in the Heroic Age.*

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS.

KETTLE.—July 4, at the Parsonage, Swan-hill, Shrewsbury, the wife of the Rev. George Kettle, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

HALL—RAMSDEN.—June 30, at the Congregational Church, Pudsey, by the Rev. J. Atkinson, Mr. Joseph Hall, of Ellenville, Ulster county, State of New York, to Nanny, daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Ransden, Chapeltown, Pudsey.

SKEET—STEWARD.—STEWARD—SKEET.—July 3, at Falkenham Independent Chapel, by the Rev. T. M. Morris, of Ipswich, Mr. G. Skeet, of London, to Mary Ann Louis Stewart; and at the same time and place, Mr. W. Stewart, of 16, St. John's-villas, Upper Holloway, to Elizabeth Skeet.

HARDING—SNELL.—July 4, at the Independent Chapel, Okehampton, Mr. C. A. Harding, station master at the Okehampton-road station, to Mary Ann, only daughter of Mr. John Snell, of Sampford, Courtenay.

TILL—WALKER.—July 6, at the Congregational Chapel, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, by the Rev. T. G. Horton, Mr. Joseph Till, of Orford, to Martha, second daughter of Mr. John Walker, of Ufford.

HENDERSON—ORMROD.—July 7, at the Congregational Church, Bolton, by the Rev. W. H. Davidson, John, eldest surviving son of the late David Henderson, to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Ormrod, of Bolton.

RILEY—ROBERTSHAW.—July 7, at Burnley-lane Baptist Chapel, Burnley, by the Rev. Mr. Needham, John Edward, eldest son of William Riley, Manchester, to Mary, daughter of the late Rev. W. Robertshaw, of Burnley.

ROOKE—COOKSEDGE.—July 7, by license, at the Congregational Church, Upper Clapton, by the Rev. H. J. Gamble, J. Cooke, of Loughton Park, to Jane, daughter of the late J. Cooksedge, of Lower Clapton.

THOMPSON—BROWN.—July 7, at 15, Woodside-place, Glasgow, by the Rev. Henry Batchelor, assisted by the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw, M.A., the Rev. Ralph Wardlaw Thompson, to Mary Stewart, third daughter of John Brown, jun. Esq. No cards.

UPTON—DAVIES.—July 7, at Upper Holloway Baptist Chapel, by the Rev. W. C. Upton, assisted by the Rev. S. H. Booth, minister of the chapel, Rustace L. Upton, of Walford, to Martha Davies, of the same place. This being the first marriage celebrated in the above place of worship, a handsome Bible was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Upton by the minister.

HYLTON—HOLL.—July 8, at the Chapel in the Field, by the Rev. Philip Colborne, Mr. John E. Hylton, of Westbourne-grove, Bayswater, to Mary Ann Robinson, second daughter of Mr. Alfred S. Holl, Chapel Field-road, Norwich.

WARDLEY—CROSS.—July 8, at the Congregational Church, Burley-in-Wharfedale, by the Rev. E. Morris, of Sale, Charles James, son of Jas. Wardley, Esq., J.P., of Darwen, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late John Cross, Esq., of Manchester.

MORLEY—WARD.—July 8, at York-street Baptist Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. B. Cheshire, Henry, youngest son of Mr. James S. Morley, Cheadle-Hulme, to Rebecca, daughter of Mr. John Ward, of Greenhays, Manchester.

SYMONS—THOMSON.—July 8, at Union Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. B. Allon, Mr. P. W. Symons, son of the late Mr. P. T. Symons, London-street, Greenwich, to Jessie Ann, daughter of Mr. W. D. Thomson, of Upper-street, Islington.

NERDHAM—ALLPORT.—July 8, at Derby, by the Rev. H. Oillard, F.S.A., Edward Moore Needham, Esq., of Alavton, Derby, to Mary Louisa, eldest daughter of James J. Allport, Esq., of Littleover, Deby.

COOPER—EVANS.—July 8, at Cross-street Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. C. Ballaugh, Mary, the eldest daughter of Mr. S. Cooper, of 17, Canonbury-villas, Canonbury, to Mr. J. S. Evans, of Hampstead-heath. No cards.

CLIFFORD—SMITH—CARSON.—July 9, at Chalmers' Presbyterian Church, Mill-street, Ancoats, by the Rev. J. M. Ross, Henry Charles, son of John Clifford-Smith, Esq., of Altringham, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Alexander Carson, of Bradford, near Manchester.

## DEATHS.

TRENCH.—By fever, at Lucknow, in India, the Rev. Robert Fitz-Frederick Trench, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, aged twenty-five, a missionary, sent out by the Church Missionary Society.

TEBBITT.—On the 30th June, at his residence, 5, Belmont-villas, Leicester, after a protracted illness, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends, Richard William Tebbitt, aged forty-nine.

WHITE.—At Gloucester, on the 6th of July, Susanna, relict of the late Rev. Daniel White, aged eighty-one.

GOULTY.—On Wednesday, the 7th July, at Brighton, after one week's illness, Horatio Nelson Goult, aged thirty-nine.

SMITH.—On the 10th inst., Caroline, wife of Robert Smith, at No. 1, Elm Villa, West Green, Tottenham, in her seventy-fifth year.

JERDAK.—On the 11th July, at Bushey Heath, Heris, William Jerdan, many years editor of the *Literary Gazette*, aged eighty-eight.

GRIFFITHS.—On the 11th inst., at his residence, Llanwrttyd Wells, the Rev. John Griffiths, the faithful and beloved pastor of the Congregational Church at the above place for more than twenty years. Deeply regretted.

& HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS give temporary ease and a lasting cure. Ulcers, wounds, sprains, bad legs, old wounds, whether recent or chronic, yield with surprising celerity to the cooling, healing, and curative properties of this invaluable ointment. It may be relied upon in all such cases as have baffled the skill of our best hospital surgeons; no matter the length of time the malady has endured, this ointment, assisted by a course of Holloway's Pills, will quickly but certainly reach the core of the complaint and thoroughly eradicate it without addition of impediments to pleasure or business. These remedies will overcome the worst forms of disease, and thoroughly cleanse the foulest state of the blood, they are safe and certain.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, July 7.

## ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued . . . . .	£33,745,010	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion 18,745,616
		£33,745,010

## BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000	Government Securities ..
	8,851,510 (inc. dead)
Public Deposits .. 4,455,861	" weight annuity) 215,702,000
Other Deposits .. 31,091,460	Other Securities .. 17,409,587
Seven Day and other Bills .. 475,021	Notes .. 9,784,680
	" Gold & Silver Coin 1,063,588
	£43,936,854 248,926,854

July 8, 1869.

Geo. Forster, Chief Cashier.

## Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, July 12.

Of English wheat we had a very small supply this morning, but foreign arrivals are large. The fine weather caused a steadier trade. English wheat being scarce sold at about the price of Monday last. Foreign wheat was unchanged. The flour trade was dull, and prices were 1s. per sack dearer. Peas and beans remained unchanged in value. Barley sold in retail at former prices. Of oats liberal arrivals are offering exship, and the sales made were at 6d. per qr. decline from the quotations of this day week. Indian corn met a steady retail demand at a decline of 6d. since last week. Maize was 6d. per qr. lower.

## CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per qr.	Per qr.
Essex and Kent,	s. s.	s. s.
red, old ..	— to —	—
Ditto new ..	47 50	44 45
White, old ..	—	59 41
" new ..	51 55	59 41
Foreign red ..	46 48	Foreign, boilers .. 38 40
" white ..	49 51	Rye .. 81 82
		Oats—
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	31 34	English feed .. 26 30
Chevalier ..	40 46	Distilling .. 25 32
Distilling ..	35 37	Foreign .. 29 32
Foreign ..	29 33	Scooth feed .. — —
		" potato .. — —
MALT—		
Pale ..	—	Irish black .. 21 24
Chevalier ..	—	" white .. 21 25
Brown ..	51 59	Foreign feed .. 19 23
		BEANS—
Ticks ..	37 39	FLOUR—
Harrow ..	40 42	Town made .. 28 38
Small ..	—	Country Marks .. 32 38
Egyptian ..	36 38	Norfolk & Suffolk 32 34
		METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, July 12.
		The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 10,617 head. At the corresponding period in 1858 we received 10,191; in 1857, 10,476; in 1856, 23,515; and in 1855, 19,554 head. Only moderate supplies of English beasts, but the quality was still tolerably good. Without being active the demand was firm, and prices were supported. The best Scots and crosses sold at 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. per Siba. The market was moderately supplied with foreign stock. On the whole the trade was steady at about last week's quotations. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire, we received about 1,000 Scots and crosses; from other parts of England, about 450 various breeds; from Scotland 5 Scots and crosses, and from Ireland 50 oxen. With sheep the market was fairly supplied. The demand was inactive, and prices were 2d. per Siba. lower. The best Downs and half-breeds sold at 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per Siba. There was a failing off in the supply of lambs, but the trade was firm, at from 5s. 6d. to 6s. per Siba. Calves were steady in value with a fair inquiry. Prime small pigs sold at full quotations, but large hogs were inactive.
		Per Siba, to sink the offal.
		s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts ..	3 0 to 3 6	Primes Southdown 5 6 to 5 8
Second quality ..	3 8 4 6	Lambs .. 5 6 5 0
Prime large oxen ..	4 8 5 4	Lge. coarse calves 4 6 5 0
Prime Scots, &c. ..	5 6 5 8	Prime small .. 5 2 5 8
Coarse inf. sheep ..	3 0 4 0	Large hogs .. 3 0 4 6
Second quality ..	2 5 3 4	Neatam. porkers .. 4 8 5 8
Pr. coarse woolled ..	2 5 4	
		Suckling calves, 22s. to 25s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 25s. each.
		SMITHFIELD MEAT MARKET, Monday, July 12.
		Moderate supplies of meat have been on sale. On the whole the trade has ruled quiet, at our quotations.
		Per Siba, by the carcass.
		s. d. s. d.
Inf. beef ..	3 2 to 3 8	Inf. mutton .. 3 4 3 8
Middling ditto ..	3 10 4 0	Middling ditto .. 3 10 4 8
Primes large do. ..	4 6 5 0	Primes ditto .. 4 10 5

firm for all samples, especially for good qualities, at late prices. Continental reports so far are of a similar character to our own, the plant being weakly, with vermin on the increase. Recent New York letters report a slight increase in the market. Mid and East Kent, 21. 10s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Weald of Kent, 21. 5s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Sussex, 21. 10s., to 21. 15s.; Farnham, 21. 10s., 21. 5s., to 21. 10s.; Country, 21. 10s., 21. 5s., to 21. 10s.; Bavaria, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Belgium, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Yearlings, 21. 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Americans, 21. 5s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s. The imports of foreign hops into London last week consisted of 50 barrels 20 cases from Antwerp, 55 barrels Bremen, 10 pockets Brussels, 60 barrels Boston, 20 Hamburg, 766 barrels 1,126 cases New York, and 19 barrels from Rotterdam.

**PROVISIONS.** Monday, July 12.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,285 firkins butter, and 2,824 hds. bacon, and from foreign ports, 31,424 packages butter, 2,335 barrels bacon. The Irish butter market remains without change. Best Dutch declined 4s. to 6s. per cwt. The bacon market remained quiet at about 78s. on board for best Waterford.

**POTATOES.** — **BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.** — Monday, July 12.—The supplies of new potatoes are somewhat more extensive. The demand has been moderately active, at from 8s. to 12s. per cwt. For old produce the market is dull at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 10 barrels from Antwerp, 25 tons 370 boxes from Belfort, 20 tons St. Malo, 125 packages Calais, 115 barrels Dieppe, 963 barrels Dunkirk, 1,000 barrels 2,816 packages Rotterdam, 10 hampers 40 cases Hamburg, 17 cases 57 barrels 81 packages Boulogne, 50 barrels 80 barrels Canaries, and 260 boxes 1 barrel from Cherbourg. New English 6s. to 9s. per cwt.; Foreign 8s. to 8s. per cwt.; Dutch 8s. to 4s. 6d. per barrel.

**SEED.** Monday, July 12.—Little English cloverseed was offered, and prices were nominally the same as previously. Foreign qualities were steady in value. Trefoils met more inquiry, and buyers paid rather higher prices. Fine white mustardseed is held as high as previously, but little is wanted. New Ruhens has appeared in the Baltic markets, and held at very high rates. Maize is coming forward freely, and offered more abundantly, at rather less money. New trifolium and new turnips were offered; prices not fixed.

**WOOL.** Monday, July 12.—The demand for English wool has been more animated and prices have shown more firmness. Longwools have been in request, but Downs have met a dull inquiry.

**OLE.** Monday, July 12.—Linseed oil has been in steady request, and rape has been firmer. Olive has sold freer, and cocoanut and palm have in improved request. Petroleum and turpentine have been dull.

**TALLOW.** Monday, July 12.—The market is firm. Y.C. on the spot, 4s. to 4s. 3d. per cwt. Town Tallow 4s. 3d. not cash.

**COAL.** Monday, July 12.—Market heavy, at last day's rates. New Belmont WallSEND, 16s.; Harton, 17s. 9d.; Harton South, 17s. 9d.; Harton Lyons, 17s.; Haswell, 17s.; Hartlepool, original, 17s. 9d.; Hartlepool South, 17s. 8d.; Heugh Hall, 17s. 9d.; Kelloe, 17s. 8d.; Kelloe South, 17s. 9d.; Lemington, 17s. 8d.; Tunstall, 17s.; Trimdon Thornley, 17s.; Hartlepool, 17s. 8d.; Tunstall, 17s. 8d. Ships fresh arrived, 2s.; ships left from last day, 5s.—total, 3s. Ships at sea, 30.

### Advertisements.

#### PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL to the REV. THOMAS REES, D.D., SWANSEA.

The Subscriptions already received or promised a mount to above £2500. Exclusive of a large number of subscribers in Wales, the following English friends have generously contributed:—

		£	s.	d.
S. Morley, Esq., M.P.	..	50	0	0
Joshua Wilson, Esq.	..	30	0	0
O. Jope, Esq.	..	20	0	0
J. Crossley, Esq.	..	10	10	0
H. O. Wills, Esq.	..	10	0	0
W. Somerville, Esq.	..	10	0	0
G. Hadfield, Esq., M.P.	..	5	0	0
J. Kemp Welch, Esq.	..	5	0	0
Isaac Perry, Esq.	..	5	0	0
Rev. D. Jones, Wickham Market	..	5	0	0
Rev. Thomas Jones, London	..	3	0	0
H. Richard, Esq., M.P.	..	2	10	0
Rev. J. Rowland	..	1	0	0
etc., etc., etc.	..			

The Testimonial will be presented about the second week in September, and those friends who intend contributing are respectfully requested to send in their subscriptions to the Rev. B. Williams, Kilvey-terrace, Swansea, not later than the 31st August.

JOHN HUGHES, Chairman.  
B. WILLIAMS, } Secretaries.  
F. SAMUEL, } F. SAMUEL.

June 20, 1869.

#### NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, CLAPTON PARK.

The FOUNDATION STONE of this Place of Worship will be laid (D.V.), on THURSDAY, the 22nd of July, 1869, at Four o'clock p.m., by SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., M.P. Prayer will be offered by the Rev. THOMAS BINNEY, and an Address delivered by the Rev. Dr. SPENCE, the Pastor of the Church.

In the evening, a PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the OLD GRAVEL PIT CHAPEL, when the Revs. THOMAS BINNEY, JOHN DAVIES (the former Pastor), DR. RALEIGH (of Canonbury), THOMAS JONES (of Bedford Chapel), DR. MACFARLANE (of Clapham), and various Ministers of the neighbourhood, with SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., M.P., and CHARLES EKED, Esq., M.P., are expected to address the Meeting.

Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock.

**LONDON LIBRARY.**—The Library is now closed at Half-past Six instead of at Six p.m., as heretofore.

By Order of the Committee,  
ROBERT HARRISON, Sec. and Librarian.  
July 5th, 1869.

**PROFESSOR PEPPER'S LECTURE** on the GREAT LIGHTNING INDUCTORIUM, as delivered before their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Louisa and Beatrice, Daily at a Quarter to Three and Half-past Seven.—"ROBIN HOOD" and "ALADDIN" musically treated by GEORGE BUCKLAND, Esq.—The ASTROMETROSCOPE—Woodbury's "Photo-Relief Process."—DORÉ'S Pictures of "Elaine"—Stokes on Memory.—At the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—One Shilling.

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References—Parents of Pupils and Clergymen.

For Particulars, address the Principal, Mrs. TODD.

#### WEST of ENGLAND DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON.

Principal:—REV. W. H. GRIFFITH, M.A.

The Pupils are expected to re-assemble on Friday, July 30th.

Application for Prospectsus to be made to the Principal, or to the Secretary, Rev. J. S. Underwood.

#### WILTON LODGE, TAUNTON.

Select Establishment for YOUNG LADIES. Conducted by Miss GRIFFITH, Daughter of Rev. W. H. Griffith, M.A., Principal of Taunton Proprietary School.

The duties of this Establishment will be resumed on Friday, July 30.

For Prospectsus, address Wilton Lodge, Taunton.

#### SOUTH PORT.—OXFORD HOUSE, OXFORD-ROAD, BIRKDALE-PARK.

JAMES COLLIER, B.A., desires to intimate that he has removed from Berkley House, Leicester-street, Southport to the above address. The New Premises have been erected with a special view to the requirements of a first-class school. Prospectsus forwarded. Day of re-opening, August 6th.

#### CAMBRIDGE HOUSE SCHOOL, HAGLEY-road, EDGBASTON, near BIRMINGHAM.

Conducted by Mr. FREDERIC SWRN, with the aid of Competent Masters, will reopen on TUESDAY August 3rd.

#### CLAPHAM PARK SCHOOL, SURREY.

This School combines, with the best Domestic Arrangements and Healthiness and Pleasantness of Situation, a Thorough Training for the Learned Professions, and for Mercantile pursuits.

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A few Pupils taken by a Graduate of London to Board and Educate. A Vacancy for Two. Prospectsus and Terms on application to the Rev. S. BORTON BROWN, B.A., Romsey, Hants.

REFERENCES.—Rev. F. W. GOTCH, LL.D., Bristol; Rev. A. MACLAREN, B.A., Manchester; J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, M.D., 38, Grosvenor-street, London, W.

#### THE CASTLE HALL SCHOOL, NORTH-AMPTON.

Conducted by Mrs. THORPE (Widow of the late Rev. T. M. Thorpe), assisted by Masters, and French and English Resident Governesses.

The Situation of the House is Pleasant and Healthy; the Pupils are Carefully Trained: the Terms Moderate.

Prospectsus sent on application. The School will re-open on Monday, August 2nd.

#### HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, THAME, near Oxford.

This School, from its establishment in 1840, has paid particular attention to those subjects required in Business. The Pupils (more than 3,000 from the above period) have excelled in "Good Writing," Arithmetic, French, Drawing, Book-keeping, Mercantile Correspondence. The best Penmanship and Drawing in the Exhibition of 1851, also the best Specimens of Book-keeping and Business Letters in the Crystal Palace during the Second Exhibition of 1852, were executed by Pupils in this School. Mr. MARSH is assisted by Six Resident Masters and Two Lady Teachers. Five Acres of private Cricket Ground.—Terms 20 Guineas; Twelve years of age, 22 Guineas. Prospectsus, with view of Premises, on application.

#### WESTWOOD PARK HOUSE, FOREST-HILL, SYDENHAM.

The Rev. H. J. CHANCELLOR will be prepared to receive a few additional PUPILS at the commencement of the next Session, August 2.

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MASTERS.—MUSIC:—Instrumental and Vocal, John Blockley, Esq., Jun. DRAWING:—Modelling and Perspective, R. W. Buss, Esq. MODERN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS, M. Mandrou, Esq., M.A.

References and full particulars as to domestic and educational arrangements by post.

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Conducted by Rev. W. MILNE, M.A.

Terms: From 30 to 40 Guineas.

Reference is permitted to Rev. J. Spence, M.A., D.D., Rev. W. Leask, D.D., Rev. C. Dukes, M.A., Rev. J. Kennedy, M.A., and the parents of pupils.

School will RE-OPEN on the 21st July.

#### THEOBALDS, CHESHUNT, N.

The Rev. T. OSWALD JACKSON begs to announce to the Parents and Friends of his Pupils that School Duties recommence on TUESDAY, the 3rd August.

#### EDUCATION at the SEA-SIDE.

The Rev. J. MOFFETT begs to announce that he is making arrangements to commence, after the Midsummer holidays, in New Brighton, a SCHOOL of a SUPERIOR CLASS; and hopes by efficient teaching, as well as due attention to moral training, to merit the approbation of those who may entrust their sons to his care.

References permitted to the Rev. G. B. Kidd, Macclesfield; Rev. Professor Scott, LL.B., Lancashire College; Revs. A. Clark and A. Wilson, B.A., Stockport; Rev. W. Crosbie, M.A., LL.B., Derby; Rev. R. A. Redford, M.A., LL.B., Hull; Rev. E. Mellor, M.A., Halifax; Rev. H. H. Carlisle, LL.B., Southampton; Rev. S. W. Moat, M.A., Finchley; Rev. J. H. Gwyther, B.A., Liscard.

Terms on application. Address for the present, "Macclesfield."

#### SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES.

Mrs. and Miss FLETCHER purpose OPENING a SCHOOL for a select number of Young Ladies at Christchurch, Hampshire, on August 2nd, 1869.

The locality offers all the advantages of a sea-side residence, the house and grounds being about a mile from the south coast, opposite the Isle of Wight.

The course of instruction will embrace all the usual branches of a sound English education together with the French and German languages, Music, and Drawing.

References kindly permitted to the Rev. Thomas Binney, Upper Clapton; Rev. John Curwen, Plaistow; Rev. J. C. Harrison, 19, Gloucester-road, Regent's Park; Rev. N. Hurry, Bournemouth; Rev. G. B. Johnson, Edgbaston; Rev. Samuel Martin, 19, Bigrave-road, Finsbury; Rev. W. Major Panit, Romsey; Rev. Professor H. R. Reynolds, Cheshunt College; Rev. George Smith, D.D., Poplar; Rev. John Woodward, Christchurch.

Prospectsus on application as below:—  
Hengistbury House, Christchurch, March 12. 18.

#### STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES-GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Principals, The Misses HOWARD. Resident Foreign Governesses.

THIRD TERM COMMENCES SEPTEMBER 23.

Terms and references on application.</

## NORTHERN CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, SILCOATES HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.

PRINCIPAL : THE REV. JAMES BEWGLASS, LL.D., M.R.I.A.

The above School receives, in addition to the sons of Ministers, a limited number of the sons of Laymen, who are carefully instructed in all the branches of a sound classical, mathematical, and commercial education, and are prepared for any department of business, or for entrance at the Universities.

The School will RE-OPEN, after the Midsummer Vacation, on FRIDAY, 6th of August, 1869.

Application for the admission of Pupils to be addressed to the Principal.

## MIDLAND RAILWAY.—MEETING of the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES at MANCHESTER.

ORDINARY FIRST and SECOND CLASS RETURN TICKETS issued to MANCHESTER on SATURDAY, July 17, and intervening days, will be available for returning up to and including MONDAY, July 26.

The Midland Company's trains run between London (St. Pancras Station) and Manchester on week days as under :—

## TO MANCHESTER.

	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
St. Pancras, dep.	6.15	9.0	10.0	11.45	9.0	4.40
Kentish Town, dep.	9.5	10.5	11.51	8.5	4.46	
Manchester, arr.	12.15	2.40	3.0	5.5	8.5	9.40

## FROM MANCHESTER.

	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Manchester, dep.	6.55	9.45	1.0	3.30
Kentish Town, arr.	12.0	2.40	6.35	8.30
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